

JPRS-EER-87-069

4 MAY 1987

East Europe Report

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SOURCES OF POOR 1986 EXPORT PERFORMANCE INVESTIGATED

Bonn IWE WIRTSCHAFTSDIENST in German Vol 28 No 7, 17 Feb 87, p 1

[Article: "The GDR Has Difficulties with Export--Scientists Ask Why"]

[Text] The GDR's successful foreign trade development of recent years has failed to continue through 1986. As East Berlin's Central State Administration for Statistics announced, export/import with the socialist countries rose, to be sure, by 3 percent to VM 123 billion, of which VM 71 billion went to import/export with the Soviet Union (one billion more than in 1985). Yet that is in both cases the smallest growth rate in years. As to the trade with the non-socialist economic region, one merely reads that the GDR had produced "another export surplus," this at a clip of VM 1.5 billion. In 1985 the GDR still bagged a trade surplus of VM 6.8 billion (2.6 billion against the socialist, 4.2 billion against the non-socialist countries).

According to West Berlin's DIW, GDR foreign trade "virtually stagnated" last year. A slight drop in exports was mirrored by a slight growth in imports. All told, according to DIW, GDR foreign trade rose by 1 percent, but 5 percent had been projected. The trade deficit against the Soviet Union is especially large. DIW estimates a VM 4 billion deficit. While in Inner-German trade, which the GDR counts among foreign trade, imports and exports declined--mainly because of the price drop in mineral oil and mineral oil products--and the GDR deficit grew somewhat, in the remaining western trade GDR exports dropped and imports increased further.

At a science colloquy in East Berlin's College for Economics scientists dealt with the causes for the GDR's export weakness and raised some demands for boosting exports. Of essential importance, presumably, is the capability by the GDR economy to adapt faster to demand changes in the CEMA countries and on the capitalist markets. The proportion of innovations should be increased, and one would have to achieve a favorable export profitability for commodities that embodied scientific-technical top standards and entered the market at the proper point in time. Further demands related to improving the qualities and technical level of export commodities, faultless manufacture and deliveries, and marketing efforts, before and after the delivery of the exports, that fully meet international terms.

The conference found fault with export planning at too short a term. Long-term concepts on some combines' participation in socialist economic integration

were still the exception at the present time. As exports predominated right now over operations planning, the chances for structural changes were limited because many exports were already tied up through contracts or accords. The main problem thus was not the leeway within the annual plan, but the level of strategic efforts.

5885

CSO: 2300/255

BRIEFS

INDUSTRY-RELATED AIR POLLUTION--GDR environmental experts--if not explicitly, yet by a wealth of examples--conceded that the GDR was considerably behind western industrial countries in keeping the air clean. In a Leipzig series of brochures, "Technik und Umweltschutz," omissions were attributed primarily to that environmental protection measures in industry still were merely rated as cost factors that might obstruct economic growth. One of the brochures explicitly refers to many sources of emissions in industry that did exceed allowable emission values outside of the plant, but could "not be eliminated through economically acceptable expenditures." With envy almost it is being stated that, e.g., in the United States, Japan, and the FRG electric filters to remove exhaust gas in the glass industry had been found extremely useful since the early 1970's. In the GDR on the other hand only 2 electric filters imported from Japan were recently put into operation. This brochure also reflects the efforts by GDR scientists to find ecological solutions in spite of the limited means available for environmental protection, even if they by no means are considered optimal in many cases. About a method developed in the GDR for exhaust gas removal in the furniture industry, one finds the qualifier that it had transformed an exhaust gas into an effluent problem. Yet, that was still justifiable "because other solutions would be still more expensive." The central difficulty, in the view of the authors, is that with the frequently inadequate single measures the ceilings for allowable emission in the GDR, which are relatively low even if punctured by many exceptional arrangements, can hardly be abided by. Then there is another pollution factor, in the view of the authors, due to the partly obsolete production machinery in the plants, e.g. the highly polluting cupola furnaces in the foundries, which can only gradually be replaced by modern electric smelting furnaces that are easier on the environment. [Text] [Bonn IWE WIRTSCHAFTSDIENST in German Vol 28 No 7, 17 Feb 87 pp 3-4] 5885

OPTIC-FIBER TELECOMMUNICATIONS--For the overdue modernization of its telecommunications network, the GDR post department intends to use more glass fiber cable, according to East Berlin's journal DER NEUERER. Right now, in all GDR bezirks glass fiber newstransmission installations were being projected and appropriate investments being placed. The journal, put out by the GDR patent office, does grant, however, that the GDR is far behind international standards in light wave directional techniques. Internationally, transmission velocities up to 140 m-bit per second, partly even up to 565 m-bit, were being achieved at a broad range. That made it possible to transmit simultaneously per glass

fiber cable 1,920 or 7,860 long distance calls respectively. In the GDR, on the other hand, they recently installed the first testing plant with a transmission capacity of 480 calls. Thus far the GDR post office has used light wave directional cable in the local network only for connecting telephone central terminals. Over the long haul one intends to use glass fiber cable also in the long distance network and the subscriber network down to individuals. The complete replacement of the copper by the glass fiber cable is something the journal refers to as a "project for the century." [Text] [Bonn IWE WIRTSCHAFTSDIENST in German Vol 28 No 5, 2 Feb 87 p 3] 5885

ANXIETY ABOUT DRINKING WATER--The high nitrate content of ground water, and hence of the drinking water, in the GDR, in the view of GDR physicians, is one "of the most important environmental problems altogether." At a science symposium in Bad Elster, they stressed not only the health hazards from poisonous nitrite and carcinogenic nitrosamines generated in the human body from nitrate, they also demonstrated for the first time that nitrate in the drinking water clearly raises the risk of goiter in iodine-poor areas in the GDR. The physicians demanded that nitrogen fertilization in GDR agriculture, the main cause of the nitrate pollution of the water, be carried out in such a way that the nitrogen is absorbed by the plants as completely as possible and the erosion losses are held down. Nitrogen stress from communal and industrial effluent, such as from sugar factories, dairies, stockyards, and from the air, by comparison, were minor in significance. Protecting the water supply from more nitrogen should in any case have priority over technical nitrate elimination measures during drinking water processing, especially since such procedures were expensive and could, from the hygienic vantage point, not yet be regarded as the best. [Text] [Bonn IWE WIRTSCHAFTSDIENST in German Vol 28 No 7, 17 Feb 87 p 4] 5885

CSO: 2300/255

WARSAW'S PREPAREDNESS FOR WINTER SHARPLY CRITICIZED

Warsaw ZYCIE GOSPODARCZE in Polish No 4, 25 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Krzysztof Fronczak: "We're Afraid of Winter"]

[Text] Winter has taken us by surprise again. The front pages of the newspapers and the radio and television news programs are full of stories that vividly recall front-line correspondence. Severe cold spells, which are encountered rather rarely in our climate, have caused many economic disruptions, and not just in our country. They are being experienced by almost all of Europe, although it is little consolation for the average citizen of our country that other inhabitants of the Old Continent are freezing in solidarity with him. As the agencies report, there have already been hundreds of fatalities, unfortunately in Poland as well.

We are complaining, and not without reason, about severe cold in apartments, breaks in water pipes and the electrical network, communication, and dead telephones. We also reflect at once about whether it has to be like that, and what we can still hope for if the weather does not turn out to be milder. The simplest answer to these uncertainties is to place all the blame on those who did not prepare the country well enough for winter. This is only part of the reasons. Others should be sought more deeply.

A report from two ministries, those of the material and fuel economy and mining and energy, issued last October and devoted to the economy's preparations for the 1986-1987 fall and winter period, contains many data with fairly optimistic implications. At the very beginning, it says that the fuel and energy situation this season will be similar to last year's. Moreover, the individual columns of figures and balances indicate that in general it should even be better than last winter. The fuel and energy balance is still strained, however; as the document states, this requires further efforts to control consumption of them. Consequently, the system of limits, and regulation and distribution, is being maintained; this includes engine gasolines and motor oils outside the market. In accordance with Council of Ministers Resolution 208/85, annual and quarterly limits have been established on the consumption of hard coal for the larger recipients of that fuel, and also quarterly limits on the consumption of fuel oil, starting in the second half of last year. In general, the state of preparations for the winter was considered to be satisfactory, and in many cases (coal stocks, and higher

deliveries of high-methane natural gas from the USSR than expected in exchange for smaller supplies of electricity than stipulated in the contracts) clearly better than last year.

With the advantage of hindsight, however, a fundamental warning should be given at once about those calculations--these were preparations for an average winter, and not for the conditions that the weather had in store for us as early as the first two weeks of January. Experts explain that everywhere in the world, prewinter preparations are intended for average weather conditions, since preparing for the worst ones is unacceptable for economic reasons. As a matter of fact, no one, not even the richest countries, could afford to prepare themselves for extreme conditions. In this regard, they cite the examples of other European countries where this year the cold and abundant snowfalls, just as in Poland, are contributing to disruptions in communications and transportation, interruptions in electricity, and breakdowns in the communal economy. Even the Scandinavian countries, where winter is usually harsher than it is at our geographic latitude, have not escaped this. Roughly speaking, one has to agree with this position. Nevertheless, many doubts remain.

Those freezing in their apartments and at their jobs do not care a great deal about the assurances and estimates of specialists, since everyone can feel for himself what it is like. But after all, the fact that it is freezing in homes and production shops is not just the result of the strained fuel and energy balance, since one can safely suggest that most of our apartments and facilities, especially those recently constructed, simply cannot be heated, even if the heating plants operated at their highest capacity and without breakdowns. The so-called thermal insulation of "modern" construction in Poland is really scandalous. Apartments are thus necessarily heated with gas, electrical heaters, and even, as it appears this winter from the reports of firemen, by cookware and irons. The overloaded electrical network fails, and this usually ends in major breakdowns, sometimes depriving entire districts of light. At the same time, the electrical pumps of the water supply systems stop, and then water stops flowing from the faucets. Such situations have not bypassed the capital this year either.

Since we are now mentioning examples from the capital--and after all, they are a part of daily life in winter nationwide: in that city there are about 500 kilometers in the heat transmission and distribution system that are in a condition that threatens a breakdown at any moment; over half of this requires immediate replacement. Before the cold really began, in the first days of January an interview with the director of the Technical Department of the Office of the Capital City of Warsaw appeared in the daily press. One could learn from that interview that even then, water system workers were supposed to eliminate one or two hundred leaks and breaks in the water supply network. He stated that the central heating was not operating efficiently in 15,000 buildings; in 1,500 buildings the central heating plants had to be replaced, those in 800 of them immediately.

In such a situation, can one be surprised at an avalanche of breakdowns following a wave of truly Siberian cold spells? The state of the coal stocks

at the heating plants and electrical heating plants also says a little about how prepared the communal economy was for winter.

Difficult times have come for energy; on 12 January, the National Power Distribution Control Center [PDM] announced a long unheard of 20 degree supply. In the course of that day the power for plant energy fell by a total of 1700 MW. This occurred primarily because of the drop in the production of energy at the Patnow and Konin electric power plants, which were supplied with fuel from the Konin quarry--a conveyor belt transport system had broken down. For similar reasons, there was a reduction in the supply of energy from the Turow electric power plant. Unfortunately, industry did not comply with the limitations on current usage, and reduced it by only 300 MW instead of 1600 MW. As a result, this made it necessary to turn off current intermittently for communal recipients. On the following day, the press published a decree from the Minister of Mining and Energy entitled "On the Subject of the Principles and Means of Implementation of the Planned Restrictions on the Usage of Electrical Power and the Daily Usage of Gas Fuels," along with an accompanying annex specifying the periods when rotating restrictions on the usage of electrical power would be in effect in individual voivodships.

The government's "Winter" staff, meeting on 15 January, announced that official proceedings would be instituted against enterprises not complying with the regulations concerning the prescribed power limits. The list of violators was headed by heavy industry and the mining industry. It appears that the decisions by the government's "Winter" staff have curbed industry's appetite for energy to some extent, and this has made it possible to eliminate major disruptions in supplying communal customers. The price of these activities, however, will obviously be limited industrial production.

The needs of the residential-communal sector for gas have also been met at the expense of industry, since record consumption of gas by the population has been noted. As I was informed by the Ministry of Material and Fuel Economy, in mid-January the highest day-to-day supply levels were noted: 9 for high-methane gas, 10 for coke-oven gas, and 10 for nitrified gas. I have heard that in the opinion of specialists, the 10-degree scale should be supplemented with an 11th degree, in order to be prepared for completely exceptional situations. It is worth mentioning at this point that a 10-degree supply of gas means that industry is shutting down "for heating" (for example, in the glass industry the tank furnaces are kept only at a temperature that will keep the raw material from congealing in them, since that would mean losses difficult to estimate). There have been drastic restrictions on production in industries consuming gas--the chemical industry (artificial fertilizers, for example) and metallurgy.

Tens of thousands of people are struggling with the winter in highway and railroad transportation. The latter in particular has found itself the center of attention, as the one supplying the power industry, heat engineering, and industry with furnace fuel. In accordance with the plan, by mid-January the miners extracted about 7 million tons of hard coal, keeping the average daily production at about 630,000 tons. Unfortunately, this did not mean that these amounts would reach the consumers. During the second week in January, as a result of the lack of a sufficient number of railcars, about 140,000 tons of

coal per day were sent to dumps near the mines. The efficient functioning of railroad transportation has become the economy's number one problem. Customers who detain railcars have been stormed against, and the most dilatory are condemned in the mass news media. PKP [Polish State Railroads] dispatchers estimate that the amount unloaded each day is about 10,000 railcars less than during last winter. The railcars, however, are being unloaded as conditions allow. Many customers do not have a sufficient amount of mechanical equipment, and those that do are employing entire armies of people for manually breaking free the coal, which is frozen fast.

As I mentioned earlier, the specialists hoped for a typical, moderate winter after those prewinter preparations. Those calculations have been proven false all down the line. Consequently, the following question arises: how can we cope, if the weather is bad and the cold does not let up? The Ministry of Material and Fuel Economy has given assurances that since we have already experienced -30 degrees Celsius, we do not need to be apprehensive about the future, especially regarding the supply of gas and electricity (but this optimism is only for consumption by the communal economy). On the other hand, problems may arise with fuel oil and motor oils. One can also assume that problems with the transportation of coal from Silesia would come to the forefront again (since 17 January the situation has definitely improved). The stocks of fuel at the fuel dumps of electric power plants and heating plants are running low, and are furthermore frozen, and it will not always be possible to move them. With our experience from the first half of January, we can imagine the rest of the scenario for ourselves. It is considerably more difficult to predict the consequences that this winter will have for industrial production. The chain of dependence, from the raw materials and energy industry all the way up to the final producers, will undoubtedly be seriously disrupted.

Energy and fuel are worth their weight in gold. This winter fully confirms this. Economical management is consequently becoming a fundamental obligation. Mentioning this sounds like a truism. Nevertheless, wasteful energy consumers can be found literally everywhere (even at the very center of the capital city of Warsaw, where there are plenty of management and inspection offices, guardians of public and municipal order, and in which Marszalkowa Street was illuminated in broad daylight on a Sunday, and consequently probably for an entire free Saturday, with hundreds of light bulbs suspended over the shops, still as holiday decorations for the shops).

Appeals for conservation will not yield a great deal, however, unless in the end one thinks seriously about how to eliminate the sources of the economy's excessive energy-intensiveness. The freezing January has contributed to vividly exposing many shortcomings in this regard. And after all, we have known about most of them for a long time. Such problems as the so-called communal infrastructure, the thermal insulation of construction materials and of construction in general, the lamentable state and size of the railroad rolling stock, and also the degree of the mechanization of transshipment, etc., were after all known before today. We have written about it on our pages as well. We make up for the neglect, as we are at present, at the cost of an enormous, if not heroic, effort by thousands of people, removing breakdowns and working to keep transportation moving.

It is true that this winter is also paralyzing economies more wealthy and efficient than ours, and that extraordinary effort cannot be avoided. Nevertheless, the price we are paying for it certainly could have been less exorbitant.

9909

CSO: 2600/385

KATOWICE STEELWORKS, HEAVY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CRITICIZED

Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish No 2, 10 Jan 87 p 5

[Article by Dr Wawrzyniec Wierzbicki, director of the Economics Institute at Jagiellonian University: "Tragedy of Errors"]

[Text] In the No 44/86 issue of POLITYKA an article appeared by A. Warchalski titled "That Maddening Katowice Steelworks." which referred to D. Passent's review of Stefan Kisielewski's book, "Everything Is Different. A Novel." The book was published in the West and I am not able to acquaint myself with its contents, therefore, I cannot engage in a polemic with Kisielewski (incidentally, of all Polish columnists, my favorites are Kisiel and Passent). However, Warchalski's reply greatly disturbed me.

He collected a lot of material which is supposed to demonstrate the advantages of the further development of steelmaking in Poland, and in particular the Katowice Steelworks. But the fact is that although the examples cited by the writer do not arouse any reservations, nevertheless they cannot be an argument in favor of the main point of the article, the Katowice Steelworks. So what if the per capital production of steel is much higher in Luxembourg, Belgium and many other states than in our country? The author links the number of automobile and telephones in Czechoslovakia to the fact that the Czechs are producing almost two times as much steel per capita as the Poles. But we can look into the statistical yearbook and find many countries in which the number of automobiles and telephones per capita is higher than in Czechoslovakia—and the steel production index is lower. Every country chooses the variant for development which is best for it.

Let us set aside the specifics of these two countries. It is true that in many states the level of the production of steel is much higher than in Poland, both in absolute as well as relative numbers. Are we supposed to conclude from this that Poland should also be a power in this field? The only fact that the writer gives in favor of the development of the metallurgical industry in Poland is that we have the coal reserves. Furthermore, he cites examples of the development of steel production in countries which have neither coal nor ore (Italy, Japan), and whose coal reserves are much smaller than Poland's (Czechoslovakia); other countries have worse conditions than we do (Spain, North Korea). Thus any attempt to generalize on a global scale would have to be completely ignored. The reasons for which this or that

country became a steel power are most often very specific to that country and often very different. For example, in Japan and in North Korea the production of steel was developed to a large extent for the needs of the shipbuilding industry. However, in Brazil it was for the production of armaments intended mainly for export.

But regardless of motivation, in all capitalist countries the basic criterion for the development of an industry is profitability. The steel industry is raw materials-intensive and energy-intensive. Even with the low prices of raw materials and energy in the 1950's and 1960's, as time went on it became less and less profitable. The experts know very well that the steel crisis appeared as far back as 1963 and is going on to this day. It is mainly for those reasons that this production is not developing either in the United States or in Great Britain. Their place on the steel market began to be taken by the Asiatic countries, first Japan and then North Korea. Why? Immediately after the war, Japan took advantage of the latest American patents and specialized in the production of the best grades of steel. An important factor was the cheap labor force. But when the production of steel and ships began to be much less profitable than other branches, Japan began to intensively develop these other branches, and its place was taken by North Korea, again thanks to a cheaper labor force.

As far as the production of steel in Poland is concerned, we must make a distinction between the first part, which goes on to further production and which ultimately remains in the country, and that which is intended for export, either in its original form or in the form of finished products (ships, machines); we are referring here to goods containing a large amount of steel.

As far as the steel which remains in our country is concerned (regardless of what will be done with it later), I make just one charge here, but it is a very basic charge. The writer proves why we have to apply technical progress. However, is the technical progress about which the writer discourses technical or is it economic--that we do not learn. As an economist, I would like to know, how much does one ton of steel of a specific grade cost us? As far as I know, no cost-effectiveness analysis was prepared in a credible way, either at the investment stage or the operating stage. A superficial analysis was only supposed to demonstrate that alternative solutions, e.g., building new large additional furnaces and mills in the Bierut or Lenin Steelworks, would not have been as good.

I would also have been incredible grateful if the writer had told us what the costs of building the Katowice Steelworks really were. I am referring to the costs of the basic capital project and the costs of the accompanying capital investment. Among them we must also include the cost of building a broad-gauge railway line, which, as you know, the Army helped us with. Let us finally ask about the full costs of environmental protection. By the way, originally the Katowice Steelworks was supposed to operate using Western engineering and Swedish ore. How much did it cost to buy the machinery and equipment which was never installed?

It was recently reported that we bought iron in Venezuela--in return for airplanes. Negotiations are probably being conducted with other customers in South America. The people should be informed--are these transactions profitable? In the light of this, what are the prospects of getting ore from traditional sources?

The arguments justifying the need to build the Katowice Steelworks for domestic needs, i.e., to replace the obsolete mills, had already been used much earlier, when the Lenin Steelworks was being built. The old steel mills had exhausted their potential so we have to build new ones. Only what kind--of what production capacity? For our own needs, certainly, because we cannot afford cheaper imports. But the Katowice Steelwork's production for export causes us concern. It is said in many Polish reports that the productivity of Polish mills, including the newest ones, is much lower than anywhere in the world. Some estimate that it is several times lower. Why has not the writer familiarized himself with these reports? I will cite only one statement: "We should particularly conduct an examination to determine whether it is really advisable to maintain a high level of steel production (with larger imports of iron ore, which is rapidly going up in price), when easily saleable coal is used in this production, and when, because of the deep recession in the world steel industry, the low price of steel, and the low quality of our steel exports, we are receiving one third of the prices that other exporters are getting. Reducing steel production by one million tons would allow us to save two million tons of coal which, when added to our export, would provide a rapid growth in foreign-exchange revenues." This is not a quote either from Kisiel or Passent, or any other "enemy of steelmaking," but from a report prepared by the PZPR CC Institute of Basic Marxism-Leninism Problems in 1982.

The writer may defend himself by saying that he did not even touch on the matter of export. So much the worse for him. One ignores that which can be conveniently ignored. Not so long ago a certain deputy premier at a meeting with the workforce of the Lenin Steelworks proved the profitability of the Katowice Steelworks by the amount of foreign exchange obtained from its sales. These figures are convincing to me only when I know how much the gain of a single dollar costs us when we sell our metallurgical products in the capitalist countries.

As far as arguments against the Katowice Steelworks are concerned, I could cite hundreds on opinions on the faulty structure of investment, and as a consequence, production, and the negative effects which stem from this for the Polish economy. These opinions are, in general, correct. The construction of the Lenin Steelworks alone was supposed to provide steel for the machinery and shipbuilding industries. The machinery industry was supposed to be our leading export industry. Insofar as the second payments area [capitalist countries] is concerned, nothing came of this. The only thing that happened was that the steel was wasted in the domestic economy. It would have been far better to reduce the size of production in these industries and direct the investment effort to more profitable branches. Any ambitions to become an exporting power based on these industries must be scrapped and the production of steel must be reduced to the indispensable minimum for domestic needs. And all of this must be accompanied by a strict thrift program.

Some of Warchalski's arguments are simply laughable, e.g., the one concerning Mrs. Thatcher. Mrs. Thatcher would certainly not build such a steelworks, and if she already had it and it turned out to be unprofitable, she would order that it be closed—just as brutally as she ordered the unprofitable coal mines to be shut down. The premier in a capitalist country must deal with hard economic laws.

It is too bad that the writer did not bring up the question of the location of the Katowice Steelworks. At present, all large metallurgical works in capitalist countries are being built, insofar as possible, on the shores of seas. Not to mention Japan and even France which, having iron ore in the northeastern part of the country and coal right next to it, decided to build new metallurgical-steel combines on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. In this context, the Katowice Steelworks' location, despite the nearby coal deposits, is unfortunate. Not to mention such considerations as the overburdened transportation system in Silesia and the lack of a labor force.

One sentence in the article is certainly correct: "This drama, or in any case this tragedy of errors surrounding the Katowice Steelworks, is still going on." It is unquestionably being continued by a lobby, whose attorney is the writer. What has happened, has happened. But let us not blunder along any further. The insatiable steelworks demon is devouring all of the funds allocated for investment and it is also gobbling up raw materials and energy. Let us, therefore, reduce it to the size of our most essential domestic needs. Let us stop harassing the Polish society to maintain such an outdated and inefficient structure.

In conclusion, one more comment. If the construction of the Katowice Steelworks was decided—and, after all, I don't know this--by noneconomic circles, then it makes no sense to make any kind of decision, either "for" or "against." But as long as there is no such statement on the part of the persons responsible, economic laws cannot be ignored. Such a voluntaristic attitude in Poland leads unfailingly to disaster.

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CSO: 2600/435

FAILING COPPER MINE FACES CLOSURE

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 18 Feb 87 pp 1,3

[Article by Tomasz Szymanski: "Lack of Decision Results In the Greatest Losses"]

[Text] Next year Konrad [copper mine] will observe the 35th anniversary of its work in People's Poland, but it will probably not be showered with flowers. It is not the people who will be ungrateful but the hard laws of economics, which, possibly soon, will make it necessary to hang a sign on the gate saying "Mine Being Liquidated."

On the other hand, these same "hard economic laws" restrain the minister of metallurgy and machine industry from making the final decision. The paradoxes in this case become more numerous, and with each passing day—as we will see—they become more difficult to unravel.

The Reasons for the Mine to Exist

Konrad is a copper ore mine in Iwiny near Boleslawiec in Lower Silesia. From its very first output in 1953 it was—due to the low red-metal content in the ore—a "planned loser." (On the day of its opening no one knew about the "great copper" in Legnica-Glogow Basin, and copper was essential to the economy at almost any price.) But recently it has become extremely unprofitable. In 1985 it lost 1.8 billion zlotys and last year was even worse—the loss amounted to 2.4 billion zlotys.

It is not surprising, therefore, that in the Copper Mining-Metallurgy Combine in Lubin, to which Konrad, along with four other mines, belongs, they say firmly that they cannot afford to add money to the business. They have many more urgent expenditures which make it possible to maintain the present size of production. Obtainment of 1 ton of copper in the combine costs, on an average, 140,000 zlotys, while in Konrad it costs 450,000 zlotys. Therefore, production of a ton of copper concentrate in Konrad requires two-and-a-half times more materials and four times as much energy.

Financing a mine from which only a small amount of ore is mined (in the Lubin and Polkowice mines, extraction is 8 times greater and in Rudna it is even 13 times greater) makes no sense from the economic standpoint.

If—Jerzy Legiec, head of the economists' team on the combine board says—we intend to restructure the national economy, eliminate nonprofitable enterprises, and if—as the second stage of economic reform announces—the existence of such plants is to be determined primarily by objective laws of economics and the self-financing and self-dependence of enterprises is to be strengthened, then the only rational decision, it would seem, would be to suspend the extraction of copper and silver in the Konrad mine. Because would this mine, if it were an independent enterprise and not part of a combine, function at all with the loss that it is incurring?

The answer to such a question is really self-evident, considering all of the facts: The further existence of Konrad, from the economic standpoint, is unjustifiable. Throughout the entire world, unprofitable mines (assuming that other, macroeconomic factors did not come into play) are simply shut down on the assumption that they are not worth the effort.

In October 1985, the workers' council of the combine came to the same conclusion. It asked the director of the combine to propose to the Ministry of Mining and Machine Industry that all mining operations in Konrad be liquidated as of 1 January 1986. The director made this proposal to the ministry and the decision, as we already know, has not yet been made. Why?

We Shut It Down and Then What?

Contrary to appearances, the matter is not at all that simple. There are important reasons which cause us to consider whether shutting down Konrad will be... profitable. It is not a matter of the social issues which must be resolved in the case of liquidation of a large enterprise (2,250 employees). We will return to these later.

Ludwik Kaziow, chairman of the union organization in the mine (70 percent of the workforce) and Jan Skowronek, head of the workers' council in Konrad, however, lay bare all of the economic and extraction problems:

—Until now, one third of the bed, with a very low copper content, has been exploited. The shafts to which we have access will allow for more or less 2 years of mining. It would be a "sin" to close down the mine before that. Everyone agrees that liquidation of the mine takes time. It cannot be done suddenly. But at the cost of 1 billion zlotys we can also prepare beds (24.5 million tons of ore) which have a much higher copper content (in mining over 1.15 percent of pure metal). Then the cost of mining the ore drops greatly.

Yet these same costs in the other mines of the combine are steadily growing and will continue to grow (in Konrad we have to go to a depth of 1,000 meters to reach copper, and at 720 meters the copper content in the ore also drops). We do not know, therefore, whether in 15 to 20 years Konrad will not become just as profitable as the other mining works in the combine. Because the difference in the costs of mining, with time, will begin to "flatten out."

—Therefore, if it is likely that in the future mining in Konrad may become profitable, should it not be closed just temporarily, and opened up again when it is profitable? In Konrad they say: That is impossible. Water will flood

the underground walkways and enormous amounts of money will have to be spent, or even a new mine will have to be built. This will be a venture many times more costly than even long-term subsidies to the now unprofitable exploitation of copper ore.

Further mining of the metal, therefore, would make it possible to keep the mine "in readiness", and the copper and silver obtained would reduce the costs of "conserving" the mine.

The persons speaking with me also bring up the argument of the macroeconomic profitability of Konrad's export. It is expensive—because a dollar costs at least 350 zlotys—but "free" foreign exchange is obtained, which is paid to our country a week after the sale. There are several such millions of dollars yearly. Can we afford to lose them?

Who Is To Do the Financing?

The matter is very complex, at least ostensibly. The minister of metallurgy faces a dilemma: Closure of the mine, entailing enormous losses, may make it necessary to spend even more money (to renew mining) in the future. On the other hand, the remaining arguments advanced to me in Konrad can be easily refuted: It is true that new beds may be more productive, but they will also be harder (and more expensive) to exploit. The preparatory work alone will absorb huge sums. Therefore, Konrad will always be "running" from the costs of extraction and it will be hard to guarantee that it will not continue to be a leaky barrel. Here a digression: During this entire matter, experts have been called upon many times. It would certainly have been easier to make a decision had these experts come to the same conclusion. But that is not so. It is hard to come to an agreement just within a committee, so how can the fate of a mine be decided?

As to the dollar value of export: Here we have the unequivocal opinion of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, which was asked whether it would be inclined, considering the foreign exchange gains, to subsidize the unprofitable (in zlotys) production of Konrad. A negative reply was received.

I wrote that the matter is "ostensibly complex." Why is this so? Well, I suggest we look at it from the following point of view: It may really be that some time in the future Konrad will stop being a loser. But who is supposed to maintain it until then? The combine? They say: We have more important, from the standpoint of strategic interests, goals. The Planning Commission? "At a time when we are beginning to restructure the economy we cannot establish dangerous and unnecessary precedents. Anyway, we do not have the right or the desire to encroach upon the jurisdiction of a self-managing enterprise." The Ministry of Metallurgy and Machine Industry? Out of what funds? We do not know the Ministry of Foreign Trade's answer.

Perhaps They Themselves?

Several years ago the Research and Design Plants CUPRUM in Warsaw prepared five variants for the liquidation of coal mines. Aside from the two extreme ones: Liquidate immediately or do not liquidate at all in the next 20 or 30

years, there were the intermediate ones. —We are in favor of variant 4, say the comrades from the factory party organization in Konrad: first secretary Stanislaw Kolodziej and secretary for economic affairs Zbigniew Kotylak.

The reference is to the mining of copper and silver ore in combination with the obtainment of anhydrite, which in shaft No 2 (Lubichow) lies under the copper beds. A considerable expansion of the extraction of anhydrite would greatly improve the financial condition of the mine and allow it to exist several more years in order to determine whether copper really has a chance to become profitable. But anhydrite will require an investment of money.

The weak side of this idea is that it only postpones the final decision without solving the most important problem: the elimination of the loss in the mining of copper ore. Nor does it fully eliminate the unprofitability of the entire mine. In the Ministry of Metallurgy and Machine Industry we hear that the situation in Konrad is already so urgent that a final decision may be expected in the very near future. Because the worst of all would be to leave the matter open. Costs would continue to grow, and the people in Konrad would continue to live in uncertainty. The boil must be lanced unequivocally.

What, then, may be the social costs of the liquidation of the mine (without exaggerating anything, although it seems that the "hard laws of economics" will really be hard this time)? There will be no unemployment, that I am clearly told at the combine. Some miners will remain to secure the pits, others will be accepted with open arms by other mining plants, particularly at the newly opened Sieroszowice. The buildings which remain after the mine is closed may be used to establish a plant to rubberize products for the needs of the combine. The processing of feldspar quartz, brought in from near Strzelina, may be started up. As far as work for the people is concerned, there is nothing to worry about, although their longer commutes will certainly be a hardship. For the neighboring gminas it will be necessary to provide new water intakes, because the mine has worn out a channel. A lot will be done, the combine assures us, to minimize the hardships caused by the liquidation of the mine.

Time For Conclusions

Everyone must take the closure of the mine into consideration, including those at Konrad. An unequivocal decision may finally bring an end to the worst state—the state of uncertainty. Postponement brings nothing good with it. The profitability of the mine will not improve through postponement. Konrad's director, Zbigniew Ziomek, says that the greatest wrong was done to mine in the late 1970's when investment in the future development of the mine was discontinued and at the same time, an unequivocal decision was not made as to its further fate. It was then that Konrad was sentenced to vegetation and the source of today's complicated matters is traced back to those days. For who, today, has a good idea about what to do with Konrad?

The example of the coal mine allows us to draw a few conclusions for the future: The restructuring of the national economy will not be an easy process, because essential decisions will often be a choice between greater or lesser evils. We have not yet developed criteria which would allow us to

define unequivocally what is profitable from the economic standpoint, what we can afford now, and which needs must wait. We do not have the necessary instruments by which we can study the effectiveness of the decisions being made, especially through continuous accounting which would make it possible to balance all profits and losses not only "today" but also in the future. It is also becoming clear that the achieved level of application of the mechanisms of economic reform in many cases does not spontaneously produce the optimal solutions.

In a word, therefore, we must "brighten" the economic horizon. That is why in transforming the laws governing our economy we must go further--we must consistently execute the plans connected with the second stage of economic reform.

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CSO: 2600/435

SLUPSK AREA 'POLONIA' FIRMS PROFILED

Koszalin GLOS POMORZA in Polish 20 Feb 87 p 5

[Article by P. Glowacki: "Foreign Firms—Profit or Loss"]

[Text] The idea of foreign capital participating in our national economy probably has as many advocates as opponents. But for now, disregarding the verdicts issued by publicists in the dispute "is it profitable or isn't it," the activities of foreign enterprises are a fact.

In the short—because it goes back only to 1982—history of these enterprises in Slupsk Voivodship, only two stages can be delineated. The first stage comprised the years 1982-1985, when 25 applications came into the Voivodship Office in Slupsk requesting approval for setting up this type of enterprise. The second stage began after 1985 when requirements were increased, the foreign-exchange investment input was raised to \$50,000, and a similar sum was required as a "founder's deposit." The number of applications for a license dropped drastically.

Today, seven foreign enterprises and two branches, employing about 1,000 people, are operating in the voivodship.

What is the benefit from opening the Slupsk market to foreign capital? The obtainment of the latest technologies and the startup of highly sophisticated production. This, in turn, causes export to grow and enhances the local market.

Locating new enterprises or their branches mainly outside of Slupsk will stimulate the region to greater activity.

New firms--INTERKIM--will be established in Gluszyna near Potegowo. Leatherlike materials will be produced there, as well as floor coverings, clothing and products made of wood. The SEEGER Foreign Enterprise obtained a site in Iubieniec near Leba, where roofing materials will be produced and the firm, like INTER-KIM, will specialize in wood products. In Bruskowo Wielkie, a factory belonging to CONTEXBIK, producing articles of both artistic and utilitarian quality, was started up. In Jezierz, on the other hand,

INTERCORP-INTERNATIONAL is starting up production of carpentry products and building materials.

Generally available local and scrap raw materials are used by these foreign enterprises in their operations. As a result, such necessary building materials as roofing tiles, prefabricates and wall elements, will be produced by five enterprises. Seven enterprises or branches have begun to make furniture, wooden houses, carpentry items and decorative wood products. Floor coverings, clothing and chemical products will be manufactured. A producer is being sought who would want to specialize in processing potatoes for food. It is possible that there will be a branch of INTERPOLCOM, one of the few producers of personal computers.

It is sometimes said that Polonia firms strip the Polish market of materials, people and machines. It is also sometimes said that foreign contractors do not want to bear operational costs or invest in the latest technologies. How does this look in Slupsk Voivodship?

The SEEGER enterprise in Lubieniec is importing a special production line, costing 1.5 million marks, to produce roofing tile. INTERBAU-NORD will build its own production facilities on Portowa St in Slupsk, where a sawmill, a building materials department, a plastics products department, and a wallpaper department will be located. Three thousand square meters of woodwork and 10,000 square meters of wallpaper will be produced here. The total value of production is estimated at 20 million zlotys.

The production of fuel briquettes from the wastes of the wood-products firm, INTERCORP-INTERNATIONAL, is worthy of note.

Over a period of 2 years, the Foreign Enterprise HANSA-NORD, which specializes in clothing production, bought machinery costing \$15,000. The production of ready-made clothing is based mainly on imported materials.

But the record for investment is held by POLNIREX, which specializes in wood and clothing products. During the course of only 2 years, over \$51,000 and 11 million zlotys were allocated for the establishment of production facilities in Slupsk, Kolczyglowy and Parchowo. A large part of this production is exported. Last year the firm delivered over 20,000 trousers, skirts and jackets to the domestic market. The year closed with production valued at 140 million zlotys in the clothing subsector and 110 million in the wood subsector.

Since December 1985, the DURAINSUL enterprise has been operating in the voivodship. As distinct from the other firms, this one does not concern itself with production but with services. It buys equipment valued at \$102,000 for the installation of rustproof, shockproof and thermal insulation.

By 1990, INTERNATIONAL will build its own facilities in which it will produce building and carpentry materials.

The best known firm in Slupsk, because it produces food, is COMINDEX. By the end of 1985 alone, it had spent 224 million zlotys and \$20,000, mainly for the purchase of machinery and equipment. The shelves in Slupsk stores are sagging from COMINDEX's juices, sauces and beverages, and production in 1990 is supposed to reach 1,300 million zlotys.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN TRADE UNDERSECRETARY--Warsaw, March 30--Following the motion of the minister of foreign trade, the chairman of the Council of Ministers appointed Ryszard Dobrowolski undersecretary of state at the Foreign Trade Ministry. Dobrowolski, 55, has been commercial councillor at the Polish Embassy in India since 1985. [Text] [Warsaw PAP in English 2223 GMT 30 Mar 87 LD] /8309

ZIELONA GORA 'POLONIA' FIRMS--Polonia-foreign enterprises will not increase in number in Zielona Gora Voivodship until 1990. That is what the voivodship people's council decided when it approved a program for development of small-scale production and services until 1990. Foreign firms have been operating in the central Upper Odra River area since 1979. Currently there are 11 of them and that is how many of them there will be in 1990. However, their production will grow through full utilization of their production capacity. Large growth is expected. In the last year of the current 5-year plan, total sales are supposed to equal 3.9 billion zlotys, which means an almost 93 percent growth compared with 1985. Approximately 30 percent of the production of Polonia firms will be allocated in 1990 for export to capitalist countries, i.e., for dollars. Personal services are a very small part of the activities of these firms. This will change. It is envisaged that towards the end of the 5-year period, services will total 71 million zlotys. This will be an improvement, but a small one. Employment in foreign enterprises in 1990 should not exceed the limit specified in the permits issued thus far, i.e., about 1,050, and 80 percent of the employees must be involved in production. The firms must adapt their operations to the needs of the economy of the Zielona Gora voivodship. Thus it will be directed at import of new technologies, production for the needs of agriculture, construction, the health service and schooling, and processing of secondary raw materials. The Polonia-foreign enterprises will have to jump very high to clear the cross-bar that has been set for them. [Text] [Zielona Gora GAZETA LUBUSKA in Polish 5 Feb 87 p 1] 9295

CSO: 2600/435

SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHE ON ARMS CONTROL, SDI, BLOC ALLIANCE

Warsaw ZA WOLNOSC I LUD in Polish No 9, 28 Feb 87 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Col. Aleksandr Tenenyov, Military Naval and Air Attache of the USSR Embassy in Poland, by Bohdan Rostropowicz: "Always Ready For Combat"]

[Text] [Question] Comrade Colonel, you recently became the military naval and air attache for the USSR embassy in Poland. Could you tell us a little about yourself?

[Answer] I was born in Novosibirsk in 1936. I worked in a factory as an electrician. I graduated from a 10-class school for working-class youth. I later studied at a tank-troop training school and the commander training department of the Tank Troops Military Academy. I have held command posts in various regions of my country. I have been a diplomat since 1971 and a member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union since 1958. I have a wife and two children, a son and a daughter. I have been in the Polish People's Republic since 29 September 1986.

[Question] The 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution is this year and we are also celebrating the 69th anniversary of the Soviet Army. With regard to the entire 70 years that the Soviet Union has existed, could you briefly characterize the historical traditions on which is based the training of the soldiers of the Soviet armed forces?

[Answer] The soldiers of our armed forces are characterized by their limitless devotion to the cause of communism, their love of their socialist fatherland and their readiness to take up weapons to defend it. These values were formed in the heroic struggle of the working people under the leadership of the Bolshevik party in the Great October Socialist Revolution and were strengthened during the civil war and World War II. The present generation of Soviet soldiers is raised on the deeds of the heroes of those years who gave their lives for the ideals of communism. Fulfilling their internationalist duties in Afghanistan, Soviet soldiers are with dignity continuing the traditions of their fathers and grandfathers who fought for freedom and democracy in Spain and Mongolia during the 1930's. For heroic deeds and help

to the fraternal people of Afghanistan, 42 Soviet soldiers have received high orders and titles of Heroes of the Soviet Union and many others have been honored with other medals.

Soviet soldiers have also made great accomplishments on the labor front. Soldiers and officers of the chemical and construction corps and other branches of service made a great contribution to quickly liquidating the damage caused by the emergency at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. Railway troops have contributed much to the construction of the Baykal-Amur Railway.

There is still another area of historical tradition with strong roots in the Soviet Army and that is the tradition of brotherhood in arms with the troops and fleets of the fraternal socialist states. The troops of the Northern Group of Forces are bound by strong ties of brotherhood in arms to the soldiers of the Polish People's Army.

[Question] Comrade Colonel, what role does the modern Soviet Army play in the fulfillment of Soviet peace policy and in maintaining relative military parity with the NATO states?

[Answer] The USSR's defense policy and military doctrine is in total harmony with Soviet peace initiatives. At the 27th CPSU Congress, it was stated quite clearly that in our military activities, we will in the future proceed in such a manner as to give no one any cause for alarm or fear. However, both we and our allies want to be free of the threat hanging over our heads. We have accepted the responsibility of not making first use of nuclear arms and we will scrupulously continue that policy. However, it is no secret that we can be the object of a nuclear attack and that is something that the Soviet Union has no right to ignore.

Continuing its peace policy under contemporary conditions, the CPSU is guided by the principle of equal security for the USSR and USA and for the Warsaw Pact and NATO nations. Therefore, the Soviet Union has called for limitations on military strength within reasonable bounds but the nature and extent of these limits has been restricted by the continuing activities and attitudes of the United States and its allies. They are not working to reduce military strength but are, much to the contrary, trying to continue the arms race and achieve a unilateral advantage.

Under these conditions, we have repeatedly announced that the USSR is not trying to achieve greater security but is also not going to settle for less. Therefore the Soviet Union and its armed forces and the armies of the other Warsaw Pact states are faced with the need to take the appropriate measures to defend themselves and maintain a high level of combat readiness.

[Question] What measures would the Soviet Union take if the United States deployed weapons in space and threatened mankind with its "star wars"?

[Answer] I can answer that question in the words of General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev in his speech in Soviet television: "We are not frightened by SDI. We have already decided what we will do if the Americans continue SDI".

[Question] What is your opinion of Polish-Soviet brotherhood in arms in the light of the growth of relations between our countries within the Warsaw pact?

[Answer] Polish-Soviet brotherhood in arms was born and grew during World War II when soldiers of the Polish army and Soviet Army fought side by side in heavy battles against Nazi fascism. The slogan "For our freedom and yours" was born on the battlefields we shared and it was in the spirit of those words that your soldiers and ours liberated the blood-soaked Polish land from the German invaders and carried the banner of victory from Lenino to Berlin.

Brotherhood in arms cemented by the blood of people is the most sacred value and universal truth. During World War II, the Soviet Union and Poland suffered the greatest losses in life and property. More than 20 million Soviet people lost their lives along with more than 6 million Polish citizens. More than 600,000 Soviet soldiers and officers gave their lives in battles on Polish territory. We are thankful that their names as well as those of Polish soldiers and antifascists from other countries are so carefully preserved in the memory of the Polish people.

Polish-Soviet brotherhood in arms has grown stronger, richer and has gained new meaning in these times. This brotherhood is fulfilled by specific activities from the development of defensive doctrine and coordination of defense planning to joint exercises at various levels of command.

The Warsaw Pact United Armed Forces is a great power against the aggressive forces of imperialism, one which is preventing nuclear war and protecting the peace in Europe and throughout the world. Throughout the postwar years, the Pact's most reliable element has been the armed forces of the Polish People's Republic with their high combat value, good training and modern equipment.

There is no doubt that in the future, our alliance, friendship and brotherhood in arms will play an important role in protecting our nations and peoples.

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CSO: 2600/439

SOVIET MILITARY ATTACHES TOUR DEFENSE OFFICES, UNITS

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 2 Mar 87 p 5

[Article: "Visits of Soviet Military Attaches"]

[Text] Col Aleksandr Tyenyenov, military attache at the USSR embassy in Warsaw, visited the ZG LOK [Main Administration of the National Defense League] where he was received by Division General Zygmunt Huszcza, ZG LOK chairman. The guest was briefed about the tasks of this worthy patriotic-defense organization.

The meeting of the Soviet military attache with the cadre and workers of the Ministry of Defense Main Office of the Engineer Troops was equally cordial. Col A. Tienienov spoke about, among other things, the current problems in the Soviet Union after the 27 Congress of the CPSU. Brigade General Zdzislaw Stelmaszak participated in the meeting.

Division General Zbigniew Ohanowicz, government plenipotentiary for Soviet Forces stationed in Poland, also met with the military attache.

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Odr Georgiy Kachur, USSR deputy military, naval and air attache, visited the Military Political Academy. After meeting with Division General Wladyslaw Polanski, commander of the Military Political Academy, at the academy's headquarters, the Soviet diplomat visited some of the training units, including the modern television studio and training rooms. He also met with the academy's scientific-didactic cadres.

Lt Col Andrey Sudets, deputy Soviet military attache, visited an Air Force unit. The attache met with the unit's flight personnel, and party and youth aktivs. Lt Col Sudets was also welcomed cordially at the Deblin Higher Air Force Officers School, where the Soviet diplomat was briefed on, among other things, problems related to selecting candidates for the school, and the school's didactic process.

Maj Chirkin, the auxiliary military attache, visited the soldiers of the Warsaw Territorial Defense Brigade, and Maj Yuriy Lebedev visited the Masovian Internal Defense Forces unit.

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CSO:2600/445

SOVIET ATTACHES TOUR UNITS

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 19 Feb 87 p 2

[Article: "Visits of Soviet Military Attaches"]

[Text] In honor of the 69th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army and Navy, Col Aleksandr Tienienov, military attache at the USSR embassy in Warsaw, visited Warsaw's Institute of Aviation Medicine where he met with the scientific staff and workers of this famous aviation institute. He also visited some of the institute's scientific laboratories and its hall of traditions. Col Prof Dr Med Stanislaw Baranski, director of the Institute of Aviation Medicine, hosted the visit.

Next, the Soviet military attache visited Brigade General Henryk Andracki, Ministry of Communications signal troops chief. During the meeting with the cadres and workers, Col Tienienov spoke about the history, combat traditions and modernity of the Armed Forces of the USSR, as well as the links of friendship and brotherhood of arms uniting the Soviet Army and the Polish People's Army.

The meeting of the Soviet military attache with the command of the artillery and rocket troops of the Polish Armed Forces also proceeded cordially. The guest was hosted by Brigade General Wlodzimierz Kwaczeniuk, commander of the artillery and rocket troops. Col A. Tienienov visited the Hall of Traditions, signed the memory book, and met with the officers and workers of the Main Office of the artillery and rocket troops of the Polish Armed Forces and Armed Forces Inspectorate.

Lt Col Aleksandr Tischenko, deputy military attache at the USSR Embassy in Warsaw, visited the Pomorska Military District garrison. During a meeting with city officials, the first secretary of the PZPR City Committee briefed the guest on the region's problems concerning socioeconomic development and party-political work. The Soviet military attache laid a wreath of flowers at the Monument of Gratitude and at the tablet memorializing the participation of the soldiers of the Soviet Army in the struggles to liberate those lands from the yoke of the invaders.

Lt Col Tischenko also visited the Quartermaster Service Training Center and other garrison units.

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YOUTH RELAY COMMEMORATES SOVIET ARMY DAY, OCTOBER

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 19 Feb 87 pp 1, 5

[Article: "The 69th Anniversary of the Soviet Army; The International 'October Relay'"]

[Text] The all-Polish inauguration of the International Youth 'October Relay,' the great political-indoctrination campaign of fraternal youth organizations of the socialist countries commemorating the 70th anniversary of the eruption of the Great Socialist October Revolution, was held February 18, 1987 at the Siekierka Heat and Power Generating Plant auditorium.

Henryk Bednarski, PZPR Central Committee secretary, participated in the inauguration, one of the important celebrations of the 69th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army.

Also participating were Rear Admiral Ludwik Dutkoski, first assistant chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Polish Armed Forces; Jerzy Szmajdzinski, chairman of the Main Administration of the ZSMP [Union of Socialist Polish Youth]; and Brigade General Zenon Poznanski, commander of the Warsaw 1st Mechanized Division.

Attending the inaugural were the chief authorities of the United Peasant Party, the Main Administration of the TPPR [Polish-Soviet Friendship Society] and the Youth Council of the Polish Armed Forces; voivodship administration ZSMP activists and activists of the Siekierka Heat and Power Generating Plant; veterans of the Polish youth movement; and soldiers of the Warsaw 1st Mechanized Division.

The inaugural participants warmly greeted the representatives of the diplomatic corp of the socialist countries in Poland and the Soviet councillor, Mieczyslaw Sienkiewicz, minister plenipotentiary of the USSR Embassy in Warsaw.

The purpose of the 'relay,' whose international inauguration was held last year in Moscow, is to honor Lenin's historical accomplishments and the communist party created by him, to popularize the civilizing achievements of the Great Socialist October Revolution, and to emphasize its influence on political and social changes in Europe and in the world, as well as on the history of the

Polish state The program of activities, which in our country is sponsored by the Main Administration of the ZSMP, includes the common goals of the young generations of the socialist countries to support the struggle for the ideals of Marxism-Leninism and the aims of our communist and worker parties--peace and international security.

The program activities of the ZSMP and all its military cells will facilitate, in their entirety, the achievement of these goals. The main thread of the campaign will consist of activities of an ideological-indoctrinational nature, including this year's sociopolitical knowledge contest, the 'Lenin Days' lectures sponsored by the PZPR, ZSMP, TPPR and the Polish Army Theater, as well as youths visiting veterans of the worker movement. Various economic, cultural, sightseeing and patriotic-defense activities will also take place.

In his speech, Henryk Bednarski emphasized the importance of the 'relay' and the other events that will take place during the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the eruption of the Great October Revolution. He said that its inauguration coincides with the 69th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army, as well as with celebrations associated with the 90th anniversary of the birth and 40th anniversary of the death of Gen Karol Swierczewski, hero of both nations. Henryk Bednarski also emphasized the crucial significance of the October Revolution in shaping the destiny of the world and in regaining Polish independence. He recalled the tradition of cooperation between Polish and Russian revolutionaries and the participation of Poles in the Revolution. The celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the Great October will strengthen Polish-Soviet friendship and fraternal defense.

The symbol of the 'relay' is an urn of soil from Leningrad's Marov Field, the final resting place for heroes of the Great Socialist October Revolution and defenders of Leningrad who perished during World War II. The urn will be given to organizers of future annual celebrations in places associated with the ideas of the Great October Revolution.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the minister plenipotentiary of the USSR Embassy in Warsaw handed over the urn to the soldiers of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko Warsaw Mechanized Division, the first in our country, who are the oldest unit of the Polish People's Army, a unit that takes pride in its extensive combat traditions and its many successes in training and indoctrination. In future stages, the urn will be given to successive civilian and military youth organizations, including the Heroes of the Soviet Army 10th Sudetic Armored Division and the People's Army 12th Mechanized Division. On October 23 the soldiers of the Warsaw 1st Mechanized Division will be asked to initiate action to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution.

During the artistic portion of the celebration, the Warsaw 1st Mechanized Division soldier's choir and actors of the Warsaw theater performed.

The inauguration ceremony of the 'October Relay' was followed by a public session dedicated to the Great Socialist October Revolution and the influence of its historical ideas on the destiny of the modern world.

VARIOUS UNITS CELEBRATE SOVIET ARMY DAY

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOJNOSCI in Polish 19 Feb 87 pp 1, 5

[Article: "Celebrations in the Units and Garrisons; Meetings of Comrade-In-Arms; Concerts and Social Evenings; Flowers on the Graves of Liberators"]

[Text] As the day of honoring the historical date of the founding of the Soviet Army approaches, the number of appropriate events organized by the units of the WOPK [National Air Defense Forces] are increasing.

As we were informed by Capt Jacek Mysliwiec of the WOPK radio engineering unit based in the Warsaw military district, contests dedicated to the history of and modern life in the Soviet Union and its armed forces are being organized for this occasion. In cooperation with the TPPR [Society for Polish-Soviet Friendship], an exhibit of photograms depicting the participation of the Soviet Army in the liberation of Poland was displayed at the local International Press and Book Club. A delegation of Soviet comrade-in-arms were invited to a social evening.

In honor of the Soviet armed forces holiday, a meeting was held at WOPK headquarters between Lt Gen W. J. Dikushyn, the Soviet Army representative. In his speech, our guest recalled the history of the origin of the armed forces of the first socialist country in the world. He also mentioned the contributions of the Soviet Army in crushing fascism and preserving peace in the modern world, emphasizing the significance of the brotherhood-in-arm uniting the soldiers of our armies who are executing common tasks within the Warsaw pact framework.

Soviet officers, students at the Warsaw Military Political Academy, will attend the ceremonial concert by the Warsaw 1st National Air Defense Fighter Force Regiment during Friendship and Brotherhood with the Soviet Army Week. An extensive program has been prepared for the regiment's guests. The regiment can trace its origins to the hospitable land of the Soviets, to Grigoryevskoy. Our guests will meet with soldiers and scouts and will hold an open lecture.

Our Soviet comrade-in-arms will also attend shows organized by other units. Lt Col A.M. Kudriavcev will visit the missilemen, and a meeting will be held in one of the units between Komsomol and ZSMP activists, after the traditional

social evening, dedicated to exchanging experiences in the area of patriotic and internationalistic upbringing.

* * *

The commemorative social evenings, meetings, club evenings, sports events and tour trips have been completed by the seamen and Soviet delegates. Additional nights of friendship and brotherhood -in-arms will be held in Gdynia, Hel and Swinoujscie. The comrade-in-arms meetings promote the exchange of military service experiences, strengthen individual friendships and recognize the achievements of fraternal countries.

Political information will be available to the Coast units and ships on the anniversary of the formation of the Soviet Army. A concert by Coast artists will be held at the Gdynia Sailor's Club. The Association of Polish Veterans of the Soviet Army of the Union of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy met with young students and military personnel to discuss the common struggles of Polish and Soviet soldiers to liberate fraternal countries from German occupation. Naval clubs and cultural centers prepared literature expositions dedicated to the Soviet soldier, and interesting films on military and war themes were shown. There will be many contests, including sports, Soviet songs and recreational contests.

A delegation of civilian and navy personnel will lay flowers at Gdynia's and Swinoujscie's Monument of Gratitude on February 23. Flowers will also be placed on the graves of Soviet soldiers who died in combat for our freedom.

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MINISTRY BOARD EYES SERVICES, BENEFITS SITUATION

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOJNOSCI in Polish 2 Mar 87 pp 1, 5

[Article by Col Waldemar Makowiecki: "From the Deliberations of the Ministry of Defense Council on Social and Living Conditions; Supplying the Military Community"]

[Text] The functioning of mess halls and the quality of their service to the military community, the quality of military clothing articles, and supplying manufactured articles as well as home finishing materials were the main topics of the last meeting of the Presidium of the Council on Social and Living Conditions, which convened under the chairmanship of Division General Marian Knast, chief of the Main Military Inspectorate.

As is known, Poland's gradually improving economic condition became the basis for undertaking extensively planned activities in the area of expanded food services to the military community. This has become apparent especially in expanded food services, qualitatively as well as quantitatively, in those garrisons lacking a sufficiently developed food and marketing network.

Improving military mess-hall operations as well as expanding the scope of forms of nourishment is aimed toward the traditionally based subscription system for serving customers on a restaurant basis, expanding the sale of one's own products at village fairs organized for this purpose, more frequent use of agencies to operate commercial centers, especially in boarding schools and hotels, and increased use of mess-hall products to supply Military Trade Service and civilian canteens and trade institutions serving the military community.

The systematic increase in the production of delicatessen and confectionary products should be emphasized with satisfaction. The 1986 plan for 10,400 tons was exceeded. A portion of the products were based on individual and community orders. In addition, sales of take-out meals are expanding constantly.

At times, however, satisfying completely the need for food services is achieved by above normative methods that encumber the mess halls. According to the council, this reflects negatively on the quality of provided services, and the maintenance of facility sanitary and hygienic conditions. In some garrisons, the problem of providing meals on Saturdays and Sundays as well as breakfast and supper to a small number of people needs to be solved.

In general, the quality of uniforms is viewed negatively. According to some consumers, their external appearances are not fully what they should be. This was the subject of a lively debate, and the services providing uniforms must pay critical attention to this.

Concerning the complaints about the poor quality of military clothing articles lodged by professional military personnel (customer complaints as well as findings at uniform inspections), it has been confirmed that this problem continues to be of prime interest to the services providing uniforms. At the same time, it was stated that the quality corresponds basically to the real capabilities of the military clothing industry under present technological, production and supply conditions and, in general, should be viewed as satisfactory.

Various efforts are being made so that uniforms are such that it would be possible for professional soldiers to comply strictly with regulations concerning external appearance and presentation.

Among the causes reflecting negatively on external appearances, despite disciplinary action taken, are: excessive 'frugal' use of uniforms by many professional soldiers (especially prior to discharge into the reserves), allocating a large part of the 'uniform equivalence' allowance for other purposes, and the habit of not taking proper care of uniforms. This is a task for commanders and superiors.

Supplying the military community this year with some sought after industrial products as well as building materials was another point of discussion. As mentioned, in 1986 the availability of many consumer articles to military customers improved visibly. Demand and supply were also in balance for food and most industrial products. However, despite numerous efforts and a relatively significant increase in supplies, the demand for washers, freezers, television receivers and small appliances is still not satisfied. The demand for coffee grinders, kitchen appliances and portable heaters also remains unsatisfied.

It was emphasized that to meet the needs of the military community, in 1985 the Military Trade Service was able to offer for sale in closed areas some materials needed to remodel and redecorate residences: paints, lacquers, glazes, terracotta, wallpaper and glues. Last year this assortment was expanded to include a certain number of bathtubs, drainboards and bathroom fixtures. In view of limited warehouse area and lack of locations for retail sale outlets, only some Military Trade Service departments conducted this operation.

Starting in the second quarter of this year, the military trade will increase the number of retail sale outlets for building materials and installations and will expand the assortment of offered products to include, among other things, cement, lime, and plumbing and central heating fixtures.

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SMALL STAFF RUNS MAIN AIR FORCE JOURNAL

Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 2 Mar 87 pp 1, 5

[Interview with Col Kazimierz Stec, chief editor of PRZEGLAD WL i WOPK, by 1st Lt Henryk Wierski; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] To begin, sincere congratulations to you personally and the entire editorial collective that you, comrade colonel, direct.

[Answer] Thank you very much. On this 40th anniversary, however, I would like to make it clear that while our monthly has been in existence in People's Poland for 40 years, we have been serving aviation almost 60 years.

[Question] Certainly, many readers are unaware of this, especially those whose contact with the journal is sporadic. Thus, let us raise the curtain of history.

[Answer] Our editorial endeavours began September 1, 1919, which, it should be noted, goes back to the beginning of the Polish Air Force. It was then when POLSKA FLOTA, a weekly, was initiated in Poznan. During 1920-1921 it appeared as a monthly. Later, unfortunately, publication ceased for 7 years. It reappeared again in November 1928 as the monthly PRZEGLAD LOTNICZY.

[Question] Was it that way up to the beginning of World War II? And later?

[Answer] We were resurrected in 1947 as the WOJSKOWY PRZEGLAD LOTNICZY. We have been publishing under our present title for the past 20 years.

[Question] Let us try to sum up somehow these four postwar decades.

[Answer] Much can be said on this subject matter. To be as brief as possible, statistically speaking, in the past 40 years, up to February of this year, we have published a total of 456 issues of PRZEGLAD WL i WOPK. Over 7,000 articles and many thousands of news items were also published pertaining, above all, to military aviation affairs in Poland, Europe and the rest of the world.

[Question] Military aviation affairs ... Is this not a somewhat general designation?

[Answer] As I already mentioned, it concerns information in our monthly. However, if one considers a publication having a more extensive format, it can be said that, via the pens of our correspondents, our readers become more familiar, directly and indirectly, with the problems associated with over 60 specialties in the WL [Air Force] and WOPK [National Air Defense Forces].

[Question] Comrade editor, you used the expression 'via the pens of our correspondents.' Is this linked undoubtedly with the journal's designated specific?

[Answer] The editorial staff of the monthly, which averages 80 pages, consists of only four persons plus Krystyna Bialobrzaska, a typist and technical editor, who is not employed here full-time. She lives in Warsaw and works for several dozen other military publications. Naturally, 'to be or not to be' depends on our correspondents. Fortunately, we have many correspondents in the WL and WOPK, in all services and specialties, as well as among civilians and former professional soldiers. Of course, it is not possible to name them all. I can only say that the most widely read authors, among others, are Boguslaw Budzynski, Bronislaw Galoch, Stanislaw Pulyk and Andrzej Kolankiewicz, all officers. We also value highly the many reservists, such as Edward Glab, Wojciech Pleszczak, Leonard Zabrodzki, Wacław Krol and Kazimierz Wierzbicki, to mention but a few. And among our permanent civilian collaborators we have, for example, Piotr Butowski of Gdansk.

[Question] Despite the large number of authors, from time to time the complaint is heard that PRZEGLAD WL i WOPK does not cover certain subjects.

[Answer] This results, above all, from the fact that we cannot force anyone to write articles. In effect, we are aware of the lack of themes associated with radar, anti-aircraft rockets and air rescue. The pilot-instructors at Deblin's School for Eagles as well as the officers involved with flight safety in the WL and WOPK definitely do not write enough articles about their training experiences, including improving flight safety. Since we are talking about problems, it should be said that one of the main problems continues to poor quality of paper and printing, especially with regard to photos published in PRZEGLAD WL i WOPK. It would be very useful if the editorial staff had its own typist; the publishing cycle would be shortened for the reader, which is twice as long for our publication than projected formally in obligatory assignments.

What is more, we need copies of inter-war issues of PRZEGLAD very badly. Very little from this era is available in our editorial archives. Thus if someone would like to donate their prewar copies to us, our address is: PRZEGLAD WL i WOPK, 60-929 Poznan 9, Postal Code 500/I.

[Question] We hope you resolve these and other difficulties quickly and effectively, even though it will not depend exclusively on the very lean collective employed by the editorial staff. In concluding our interview, it would be worthwhile to acquaint our readers with a profile of PRZEGLAD's workers, especially since it is a special anniversary.

[Answer] My deputy is Lt Col Magister Eng Ryszard Dziubel, an electronic engineer, who has been associated with PRZEGLAD WL i WOPK since 1982. He is responsible overall for covering the WOPK. Magister Wladyslawa Gardziejewska has been the editorial staff's secretary for over 12 years. Magister Danuta Kazimierska is the senior editor. Stefania Tomak is our reliable typist who is burdened with many non-editorial tasks. That is our entire Poznan group. I should also add that PRZEGLAD WL i WOPK has been printed by Lodz's Military Press since the end of the war.

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BRIEFS

MILITARY DELEGATION IN MOSCOW—On Wednesday USSR Minister of Defense Siergiej Sokolov, marshall of the Soviet Union and candidate member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee Politburo, met with Division General Tadeusz Szacila, chief of the GZP WP [Main Political Directorate of the Polish Armed Forces], who headed a GZP WP delegation visiting the Soviet Union. A sincere friendly talk was held in which General of the Army A. Lizichov, chief of the Main political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, participated. [Text] [Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 19 Feb 87 p 1] 11899

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JAKES ADDRESS TO CPSL SESSION IN BRATISLAVA

AU030600 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 1 Apr 87 p 5

[Speech by Milos Jakes, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, delivered at the CPSL Central Committee session in Bratislava on 30 March]

[Text] Esteemed Comrades; I am sincerely pleased to be attending the session of the CPSL Central Committee, which is a momentous step in carrying out the resolution of the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session to the Slovak conditions. I convey to you comradely greetings from the CPCZ Central Committee and its General Secretary Gustav Husak.

The resolute implementation of scientific-technological progress is the key task as well as an instrument for the realization of the strategy of socio-economic acceleration. Therefore, the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium decided to put it on the agenda of the fifth session. Since you all are acquainted with the course and the results of that session I will not analyze its content and importance in detail.

The party Central Committee concentrated on the solution of critical problems and on the acceleration of the implementation of scientific-technological progress in the community practice. It addressed itself thoroughly with the most important issues: to our participation in the international socialist division of labor, particularly to the implementation of the Comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technological Progress of the CEMA Member Countries Through the year 2000; to the structural changes in the national economy, investment policy, R&D base, restructuring of the economic mechanism; and the motivation of the human factor. The CC paid close attention to bringing the party activities up to the level corresponding to the demands of the times.

The CPCZ Central Committee session openly and critically assessed the issues of scientific-technological development in all its domestic and international implications, pointed out why we are not successful in realizing the tasks determined by the Eighth CPCZ Central Committee Session and the resolution of the 17th congress, and why to date there has not been a decisive turn of events in the implementation of scientific-technological development in practical applications. From the viewpoint of the tasks determined by the congress for the eighth 5-year period and development in the nineties, the Central Committee adopted at its fifth session conclusions of conceptual nature.

The CPSL Central Committee Presidium report, delivered by Comrade Hruskovic, the submitted written background material, and the discussions confirm the urgency of the implementation of the results of science and technology. We appreciate the fact that the agencies of the CPSL Central Committee are systematically devoting themselves to the issues of scientific-technological development. Even in Slovakia, as is apparent from these deliberations, there are many problems, missed opportunities, and shortcomings: in the application of science and technology, in quality and effectiveness, in innovation, and in the nonfulfillment of intensification factors. We will continue to expend considerable resources on investment projects, which will lead to advances, designed to positively influence the structural changes, the process of intensification. It is necessary to ensure that the old shortcomings be avoided, and that new capacities achieve the planned parameters.

The CPCZ Central Committee resolution demands that we proceed more energetically in the utilization of the findings of science and technology in the national economy. Conditions for that have been created by the continued growth of the production and scientific-technological potential, by the possibilities of contributing to the realization of the Comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technological Progress of the CEMA Member Countries Through the Year 2000, as well as by the possibilities of participating in the long-term programs of economic and scientific-technological cooperation, which were concluded between the CSSR and the other socialist countries. The program of the CSSR-USSR cooperation is of exceptional importance for us.

If we measure the results achieved to date under the Eighth 5-Year Plan with the strict criteria of the strategy of acceleration and dynamics of scientific-technological advances in the industrially most advanced countries, we can see that the implementation of results of science and technology in our country has not been very effective. This shows up in the lack of dynamics in innovations, in the slow progress of the technological modernization of the production base, and in the inadequate export performance. The structure of the national economy does not meet the needs of acceleration of scientific-technological progress; it is linked far too much with the traditional sectors without future prospects.

The degree of the Czechoslovak economy's involvement in the international division of labor is still inadequate. Our system of the management of the national economy's is not sufficient to stimulate scientific-technological progress and the introduction of effective innovations.

Thus, we have to note that despite a partial improvement there has not been a decisive change. The inevitable transition of the national economy to the path of intensive development ran into a number of obstacles and exposes not only the shortcomings of our organizational, professional, personnel, and information nature, but also shortcomings in the actions by the state and economic agencies, the party not excluded.

As a revolutionary party we are responsible for creating conditions for resolving the critical tasks of the current historical stage, combining the advantages of socialism with the scientific-technological revolution, increasing the economic strength and the attractiveness of socialism, in the world. We are

determined to strengthen all lasting values of socialism, unfold and comprehensively utilize its immense potential. We must leave behind what has become obsolete and proceed toward what is the mainstay for today and for the beginning of the upcoming millenium.

The present day CPCZ activity is the inspiration for and the key to resolving these cardinal tasks. The party's innovative policy convincingly affirms that the strategic line for accelerating socioeconomic development and restructuring as a method of acceleration is today the only possible road which ensures the further victorious advance of socialism. Therein also lies its international importance.

At its 17th congress, our party identified itself with the political course initiated by the April session of the CPSU Central Committee, and fully endorsed it. The 27th CPSU Congress elaborated this course into the strategy of acceleration. The new edition of the Third CPSU Program, adopted by the congress, is its theoretical foundation. It has entered the minds of our Communists as the Communist Manifesto of today. By its theoretical and practical activity, the CPSU is the vanguard of the world communist and revolutionary movement. True to Leninism, to its methodology, it is ever more profoundly discovering the laws of social development, analyzing the driving forces, and determining the effective instruments for the development of socialist society. Resolutely, energetically, and boldly, it has been freeing the creative potential of the people. The January Session of the CPSU Central Committee has become an important milestone in that respect. In his opening words at the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee session—when speaking about the January Session of the CPSU Central Committee and its motivation for us—Comrade G. Husak stressed that during the entire history of our party we have been learning from Soviet Communists, and we are making use of their experience all the more so today. The CPSU's activity is also an inspiring guide for resolving the basis of our problems. That is why the Czechoslovak Communists as well as individuals without party affiliation have been acquainting themselves so eagerly with Comrade Gorbachev's speeches, which express the revolutionary truth, courage and firmness; affirm the strength, the humanity and the moral purity of socialism; and reinforce mankind's historical optimism. They constitute the cleansing of deformations of Leninism, of everything that is false, of dogmatism, and revisionism. People see that a path of creative searching and open policy has been entered, which means more socialism and more democracy, information, and social control.

We fully identify the new revolutionary CPSU course with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's person and activity. That is why our entire country received the news of the visit by the highest Soviet representative to the CSSR with such satisfaction. There is no doubt that this visit will become a great manifestation of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship, that it will demonstrate our unshakable unity, elevate the cooperation of our countries and Communist Parties to a new, higher level, that it will—by its significance—transcend the borders of our countries.

Comrades; the implementation of the strategy of acceleration and our determination to make further advances in restructuring society and scientific-technological progress puts new and high demands on the work of the leading force of society—on our Communist Party. We are aware that the country's long-range development depends on the initiative of the party, its conceptuality and capability of action. One of the party's vital tasks today is to search for, find, and implement optimal ways to effectively utilize our socialist society's potential.

When implementing the strategy of acceleration, the party policy at all levels must proceed from a profound knowledge of the ongoing processes in the party and society. We must admit that the assessment of the achieved results as well as the determination of perspectives have not always been based on scientific analysis. We must also make more efforts to reject partial measures with poor standards of conceptuality, which would have low societal effectiveness.

Experience affirms that we cannot successfully build socialism without a scientifically substantiated concept. Therefore, we must set up conditions for scientific knowledge to make its way rapidly into policy, and through the policy be implemented in practice. We must realize this and do it now, when the great social tasks require new ways of thinking and approaching their implementation. This means to develop systematically and in time, programmatic, organizational, ideological, and control actions.

The Central Committee regards the rapid and consistent evolving of the principles of restructuring the economic mechanism, including the draft law on the state enterprise, as the key tasks. This will be the most significant measure in our economy since the nationalization of industry. It will be accompanied by many other measures, whose purpose is to improve the quality of production; a comprehensive experiment in evaluating the basic elements of increasing enterprises' independence and responsibility; to establish direct relations within the CEMA framework; and conduct of foreign trade in selected production organizations. Last week, for example, a large group of Soviet state functionaries and economists were in Czechoslovakia to assess possibilities of additional mutual cooperation, the establishment of direct relations, and the setting up of joint engineering ventures designed to contribute to increased efficiency of production as for mutual benefit.

When we so urgently stress the need for a new economic mechanism as an instrument for raising the efficiency and for the modernization of our economy, for accelerating scientific-technological progress, and for a strong social policy, we must immediately say that we must not permit false illusions, which always lead to disillusion. The illusion that comes with the adoption of the new economic mechanism, is that wages and the standard of living in general will automatically rise. Higher wages and remunerations will be where economic yield will be greater, where products will have better parameters, where profit will be greater. Sanctions will be implemented on unprofitable work and production. Through the restructuring of the economic mechanism, we will more actively impart social justice, and wage battle on illicit incomes, and secondary and nonsocialist redistribution.

The approval of the measures will change nothing by itself. We ourselves have experienced this several times in the past. The restructuring of the economic mechanism and the solution of economic, organizational, political, ideological, and associated moral issues will require total exertion of strength, know-how, and energy--above all by the party. The party must be the political leader of the society and integrate all its creative forces.

That, however, does not mean that the party will assume the functions and duties of the state and economic agencies and the responsibility of their officials. On the contrary, it must see to the correct division of labor, competence, and responsibility, so that every state, economic, social, and scientific institution is aware what its duties are, so that everyone knows his responsibilities. At direct variance with this is the conduct of those officials who are ad infinitum explaining failings in carrying out party resolutions, chronic shortcomings in the economy and in various sectors by external causes; blaming others for them, or substituting cheap self-criticism for the correction of problems. This, too, must stop.

Comrades; we are not only at the beginning of a great task, but also at the beginning of a great struggle. The party has always reached its objectives when it concentrated all the energy of its united course on them. We must not mark time.

We are all responsible for acceleration, for achieving the necessary changes, and for the success of restructuring. The party, the state and economic agencies, scientific and other institutes, the National Front organizations--we are all responsible. However, everyone has to begin restructuring with his own person, by improving his knowledge, abilities, quality of work; and by relentlessly combatting formalism, overorganization, and a quantity of meetings that solve nothing. Life will expose those who merely talk and want to sponge on our prosperity.

People's activity, initiative, creativity, great ideas, and progress in general can assert themselves and develop only in places where the proper atmosphere has been created. Therefore, we will support everywhere and everything that fosters creative ideas and stimuli for initiative. I would like to say here that the open fruitful discussion at the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session convincingly showed the strength and wealth of collective wisdom and significantly enriched the results of its deliberations.

The implementation of the strategy of acceleration requires creative solutions to tasks and reassessment of many ingrained views. This is also true because various incorrect approaches always attacked themselves like parasites where current problems were not being consistently resolved in the Marxist-Leninist concept. This is sufficiently apparent from the developments after the 13th CPCZ Congress, which culminated with an attempted counterrevolutionary coup.

However, a creative solution to new tasks and overcoming of outdated views that does not weaken, on the contrary, it strengthens the fundamental constants of socialism: the national ownership of the means of production, and the leading

role of the workers class and its vanguard--the Communist Party, which abides by Marxism-Leninism and the principles of proletarian internationalism. These were the constants which the rightwing opportunists and revisionists attacked in 1968. They were destroying the party's unity and wanted to transform it into a social-democratic reformist party. They were putting the elite in the place of the leading role of the working class. They were proclaiming neutrality in place of the alliance with the Soviet Union and interdependence of the countries of the socialist community. Herein lie the substantial differences between the political course of the 17th CPCZ Congress and those, who in 1968 were striving for a counterrevolutionary coup and dragged many of our citizens into human tragedy.

I mention these issues because even brave comrades are concerned that this party's integrity in resolving new tasks with new methods which would not be taken advantage of by our opponents.

Comrades, the present times put new and higher demands on the activity of the party, on the forms and methods and style of its work.

The consistent carrying out of the resolution of the 17th congress requires marked improvement in the activity and enhancement of the role of elected party officials at all levels. We must energetically enforce that an open exchange of views, criticism, and self-criticism have their homestead in the party forums. This is a condition for a truly collective leadership, for increasing the responsibility of every member for an adopted resolution and its fulfillment. This also is the road to improving the standard of the decision making processes.

The acceleration of scientific-technological developments as a basis for the enhancement of the efficiency of the national economy as a condition for the increase of the people's standards of living, constitute the fundamental political task in the upcoming period. Therefore, the party's organization, management, indoctrination, personnel, and control functions must develop and be strengthened in such a way as to consistently move toward the designated objectives.

The Fifth CPCZ Central Committee session ruled for concentrating and uniting the efforts of communists for accelerated implementation of the results of science and technology in practice and stimulating the creative initiative of the working people, so that in every production and research collective, an atmosphere of bold creative search and an implacable attitude against undesirable compromises and passivity would prevail. The session obliged party organizations to mobilize, organize, and investigate how enterprises are utilizing scientific-technological findings and what conditions they are creating for their speedy introduction into life. Therefore, it decided to break down the tasks into specific measures for appropriate worksites and to increase the concern for scientific-technological intellectuals and for the activity of the workers of the preproduction stages.

The intensification process requires that all party officials and organizations systematically follow the scientific-technological progress in departments, enterprises, and plants. In order to do this, kraj and okres committees must

develop and implement an effective system for influencing and controlling the preparation and the fulfillment of research, development, and implementation tasks and obligations arising from the Comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technological Program of the CEMA Member Countries Through the Year 2000.

[The basic party organizations must see to it that the plan of technological development in plants and enterprises ensures efficient production. It must demand from the managers that the plans for the innovation of production programs and for the modernization of production be submitted not as a package of technical solutions, but in the form of fundamental political-economic documents, which will be the foundation of effective party work. They must orient the right to control toward assessing specific yields in the growth of labor productivity, toward the standard of technical-economic parameters of technologies and products, of quality and thriftiness.]

Party officials and organizations must demand an increased number of shifts to be worked, especially in general and electrical engineering industries; a more intensive utilization of expensive and state-of-the-art machinery and equipment; more extensive formation of rationalization workshops to ensure timely training of specialists for efficient utilization of the state-of-the-art instruments and equipment such as flexible production systems, computerized design systems, etc.

They must not ignore issues connected with overcoming bureaucratic barriers, which slow down the rate of implementing science and technology into practice, and reducing unnecessary administrative work.

Party organizations, especially those in central offices, in ministries, and in the economic production units, must proceed with more ingenuity and energy. In view of their position, they bear great responsibility for carrying out the congress guidelines. They must not permit underestimation of the political seriousness of solving the intensification problems, they should make full use of all their rights and fulfill all their obligations. We demand that they be active in solving ripe problems, that they openly and with adherence to party principles concern themselves with the shortcomings and become guarantors of consistent enforcement of the departmental party policy.

We link the acceleration of scientific-technological development, with the improvement of the work of the management with a highly creative, conceptual, and well organized work of the management staffs at plants, enterprises, and institutes. Party officials and organizations must place heavy demands on them, entrust them with specific tasks and demand their fulfillment. That is why the issues connected with personnel work are so very urgent. The party cannot tolerate in management positions those who have not grasped the purpose of the strategic guidelines and the urgency of the tasks of the times: those who are not up to their tasks, those who are working in the old bureaucratic manner without being able to think creatively, work with people, or assume the necessary responsibility. The party cannot depend on those who are indifferent and give preference to personal profit. It is the capable, energetic, and talented organizers, who are prepared and willing to solve the

complex tasks of the times, who must be placed in responsible functions; people, who are a model at work and in their private life, who are disciplined and have a sense of order, who are irreconcilable toward all negative phenomena listed in the letter of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium. We must fight for strengthening the responsibility of party officials at all levels for adopted personnel solutions and their societal consequences. It is necessary, above all, to enhance objectivity in cadre work. It must be ensured through increased democratization, through assumption of personnel controls by masses--as Lenin demanded. I quote: "Everybody knows that this or that politician started like this or that, underwent such and such development, in the critical moment of his life he behaved like this and that, he has--on the whole--such and such qualities and, therefore, it is natural that party members can--being fully acquainted with the matter--elect or not elect him to a given party post. The general control of every step of a party member's political activity creates an automatically functioning mechanism which ensures what is called in biology 'survival of the fittest.' 'Natural selection' under the conditions of full publicity, eligibility, and general control ensures that each worker gets an 'adequate position,' that he is doing work which corresponds to his strengths and ability, that all consequences of his errors, fall on him, and proves before the eyes of everyone that he is capable of realizing his mistakes and avoiding them in the future." (V.I. Lenin's Collected Works 6, page 177, Pravda Publishing House, Bratislava 1980).

I think that there is no need to add anything to these thoughts of Lenin, but we must find ways to implement them in life. Therefore, the CPCZ Central Committee has been contemplating the issue of increasing the influence of work collectives on the selection and assessment of personnel.

In personnel work, we must ensure competition of talents, abilities, ideological and political firmness, and the ability to organize collectives of people. We must achieve a situation where the personnel preparedness corresponds to the innovations in production and society. We stress, however, that this requires enhancing the vanguard role of the party, of every communist, deepening the ideological and political standard of party members and of people without party affiliation, in order to give support to those managers who can guarantee a successful scientific-technological and national progress.

At the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session we noted that the current comprehensive personnel assessment does not meet the requirements. We must develop a system of permanent strict certification, filling certain posts by competition, trust individuals without party affiliation, entrust them with functions, provided--understandably--that they are politically, professionally, and morally prepared for them.

We fully realize that the success of the socioeconomic acceleration and societal restructuring depends to a large degree on how we will succeed in intensifying the ties of the party with masses and strengthening its authority. In view of the current tasks and the current state of our society, the issue of the unity of the party with the people is especially important. The experience from building socialism in our country and in a number of other countries shows that one cannot rely on some sort of automatic existence of such unity.

An open policy, broadly-based flow of information so that the working people would learn not only what is going on in the world, but also what is being decided in their village, in their enterprise, at their work-site greatly contributes to such unity.

Comrades; during this 5-year plan and until the end of this century we must carry out considerable tasks, achieve considerable results.

However, the results of the fulfillment of the 1986 plan and in the first quarter of 1987 show that our progress on the path of intensive development is slow and does not meet the requirements of the 17th CPCZ Congress. This year we must compensate for the production shortfalls, gradually make up for the shortfalls from last year, maintain the desired dynamics of the growth of assets and consistently ensure the qualitative aspects of their formation. We must ensure that the exceptionally exacting tasks for the domestic market and for exports, continue on the course of a higher value added to raw and other materials, and energy and to a reduction in total costs. We must raise demands for strict economy, for efficient use of capital assets and working hours, for strengthening work discipline and order, for the coordination between production and the needs of consumers, for substantially improving the quality of products. We must decisively oppose undesirable pressures and the tendencies to cast doubts on the prescribed tasks of the state plan or make the fulfillment contingent upon unrealistic demands, a matter that would lead to the threatening of the goals of the 5-year plan, and thus also of the resolution of the 17th congress.

Comrades; we can realize these great and bold plans only in peaceful conditions. Therefore, our party and all our people fully endorse the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and its consistent peace policy borne by the Great October, whose 70th anniversary will be celebrated with us by all progressive mankind.

The field of our battle for peace is every worksite, the fulfillment of the specific tasks of the state plan and all work-related duties. The results we achieve, and whether the mankind's peace prospects will improve, depends on each one of us. Therefore, we welcome and greatly appreciate the initiative of the working people in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the 40th anniversary of Victorious February. It is necessary that management and national agencies and organizations, above all the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement and the Socialist Youth Union create conditions for its further development and correct orientation.

We are convinced that the CPSL Central Commi. Communists in the Government and the central agencies of the Slovak SR, in economic production units, in enterprises, and organizations will immediately begin motivating with their example all working people for the successful fulfillment of the resolutions of the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session and the resolution of the present session of the CPSL Central Committee.

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CSO: 2400/213

KAPEK ON PRAGUE WORKERS' INITIATIVE

AU231518 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 17 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Antonin Kapek, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and leading secretary of the CPCZ's Prague City Committee, by Zdenek Horeni and Vladimir Cechlovsky: "Creatively Developing the Prague Appeal"—date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Some time in the past the party's Prague organization developed the movement of research institutes, institutions of higher learning, and enterprises for combining science with production. Its results were appraised at the Eighth CPCZ Central Committee Session in 1983, which dealt with scientific-technical development. The new stage of the movement is the current initiative of Prague's plants and enterprises, entitled "By Combining Science With Production, by Modernizing, and by Applying Creative Effort of Collectives, Toward Accomplishing the Tasks of the 5-Year Plan," known as the "Prague Appeal." We have discussed the experience acquired in this enterprising appeal with Comrade Antonin Kapek, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and leading secretary of the CPCZ's Prague City Committee.

[Horeni/Cechlovsky] Soon it will be 2 years since the proclamation of the Prague Appeal. How has this initiative helped to accelerate technical development in our capital?

[Kapek] In the first year of the Eighth 5-Year Plan, almost 30 percent of tasks contained in the pledges of Prague's organizations have already been accomplished. About 40 percent of all the adopted tasks are oriented toward the innovation of products and technology in Prague's industry. We are carefully evaluating the results achieved in raising the standards of work and of organization in the individual workplaces, toward which almost one-third of the tasks is oriented. The most significant results have been achieved in removing strenuous manual work, and in improving the organization of work and the working environments. True, we have to concede that the task accomplishment in this sphere is frequently lagging, depending on the promised investments and on success (or failure) in searching for ways of resolving the tasks with one's own efforts and resources. Likewise, the current state of manpower planning and of the method of remuneration is not sufficiently stimulating the use of all available reserves.

It can be said without exaggeration that the Prague Appeal is a new kind of socialist initiative which grows out of the demand for intensification and which is primarily oriented toward good quality. Herein lies its innovationist contribution, but also the difficulties and demands involved.

[Horeni/Cechlovsky] How are the institutions of higher learning and scientific institutes participating?

[Kapek] Very actively. The accomplishment of more than 700 tasks shows that the transfer of scientific knowledge into practice can be considerably accelerated. In many respects the Prague Appeal is becoming an instrument helping us to concretely appraise the real results provided by science, and its contributions to social practice. It is also the means on which the party organizations are relying in their struggle against narrow group interests, barren academic discussions, and diverse technocratic tendencies—against the isolation of life in institutes and schools from life in our society.

[Horeni/Cechlovsky] Has the Prague Appeal proved useful in overcoming administrative and bureaucratic barriers in the scientific-technical development?

[Kapek] There are many examples to show that the working collectives' initiatives in the production and preproduction stages have helped to make the path of the results of technical development from research and development to actual production far more flexible than heretofore. They have also helped to simplify the management of scientific-technical development in enterprises. Our collectives criticize inefficient bureaucracy and the excessive number of regulations, which slow down the science-research-production-utilization cycle in individual phases. This applies to the planning and management of scientific-technical development, the evaluation of its results and impact, and the application of the principles of remuneration. The results here are least provable and effective. The thing that harms scientific-technical progress most is bureaucracy, and thus it is no coincidence that the Prague initiative has so sharply clashed with it. The competing collectives are now linking the struggle against bureaucracy very closely with grasping the essential need to deeply restructure the economic mechanism in the way formulated by the Principles adopted by the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and the CSSR Government.

[Horeni/Cechlovsky] How can one change or improve the general status of engineers in the society?

[Kapek] The present period demands that we raise the prestige of engineers' work in the society. We have a lot to do in this respect, both in the mass information and propaganda media, and in our social life in general. Technical work does not yet enjoy the respect it deserves in our society; we lack here sufficiently widespread material and moral incentives. Our creative technical intelligentsia does not understand this as longing for glory and popularity in the society—but it needs society's support for its work, which is connected with great risks and with great technical courage.

We can quote examples of special appreciation for the extraordinary social contributions of technical personnel expressed in terms of material remuneration; this, however, is not at all usual, and for several reasons. These range from fragmented and incomprehensive directives on remuneration and unsuitable interference by control agencies in the work of directors, to the insufficiently determined elimination of egalitarianism and false comradeship (according to which everybody can claim equal remuneration regardless of his contribution to society) by economic, trade union, and also party officials. The inadequate interlinking of the material interests of the collectives working in preproduction phases, in research, and in science is justly pointed out.

We demand that the party committees and primary organizations substantially improve the quality of their political work with our technical intelligentsia; and that they fully support the technical intelligentsia's cooperation with the workers' collectives, which is becoming increasingly urgent if we want to cope with all tasks in production and in the economy, and if we want to achieve our political goals. A most significant role is also played by the technical intelligentsia's public political involvement. We greatly appreciate the involvement shown by the effective campaigns of the Czechoslovak Scientific-Technical Society to spread and popularize the Prague Appeal.

[Horeni/Cechlovsky] How is the city party organization orienting its ideological work in this respect?

[Kapek] It is facing new tasks here. The danger of the technocratic approach is frequently very justly criticized. But at the same time we are stressing that the acceleration of scientific-technical progress is not merely the concern of technicians, economists, or the executive staff in individual ministerial branches; as stressed way back by the 16th CPCZ Congress, it is "the truly revolutionary task of our entire society."

That is why it is not some long-term ideal, but actual reality to link the results of the modern scientific-technical revolution with the merits of socialism. It is a struggle that is being waged daily at every workplace as it were, a struggle with many social and political connections. Every superficial, cheap judgment on these issues is therefore both disorienting and harmful. We must particularly know how to appreciate the social connections of scientific-technical progress.

[Horeni/Cechlovsky] In what direction will the Prague Appeal develop now?

[Kapek] A great deal will follow from the appraisal of the results, and as a consequence of certain weaknesses that are still manifest in the development of individual aspects of the Appeal. We have organizations that have understood the Appeal as an isolated campaign, and thus have large reserves in the elaboration of pledges. This also applies to organizations that have already accomplished many of their tasks. The Prague Appeal cannot ignore the ensurance of tasks planned for this year.

The main trends of development are based on the understanding of the Prague Appeal as an initiative oriented toward ensuring long-term tasks, above all those of the Eighth 5-Year Plan and those of the scientific-technical development plans.

On the basis of negotiations with Comrade Boris Yeltsin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate member and first secretary of the CPSU's Moscow City Committee, and on the basis of the need to utilize our mutual comradely relations to ensure the policy of accelerating the social and economic development of our countries, we have prepared together with our Moscow Comrades a new agreement on cooperation and comradely relations between Prague and Moscow. It is based on the mutual cooperation of all enterprises, institutes, and institutions in Prague and Moscow which are accomplishing the joint tasks of the Comprehensive Program for Scientific-Technical Progress, or those that will be establishing direct scientific-technical and economic relations. This has also created new incentives for developing the collectives' initiative in production and in science.

It is our highest aim and intention to achieve the close and consistent control of results, as demanded by the many years of traditional initiative on the part of Prague's working people for developing our socialist society.

[Horeni/Cechlovsky] We thank you for the interview.

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CSO: 2400/210

KEMPNY, ADAMEC ADDRESS CZECH NATIONAL COUNCIL

AU241503 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 21 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[CTK report: "Presidium of Czech National Council Discussed Cadre Changes in the Government of Czech SR; Every Effort, Resource, and Possibility for Coping With Exacting Tasks"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)--At its meeting yesterday [20 March], which was chaired by Josef Kempny, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and chairman of the Czech National Council [CNR], the CNR, in accordance with Article 131, paragraph 1 of the constitutional law on the Czechoslovak Federation, discussed a request by Josef Korcak, premier of the Czech SR, to be released from his post. The Presidium expressed thanks to him for his many years of dedicated work for the benefit of our socialist fatherland. Furthermore, the Presidium accepted the resignation of Ladislav Adamec, deputy premier of the Czech SR, and thanked him for his work in this post.

In the part of the meeting the CNR Presidium appointed--on the proposal of the CPCZ Central Committee and the Central Committee of the National Front of the Czech SR and in accordance with Article 122, paragraph 1/a of the constitutional law on the Czechoslovak Federation--Ladislav Adamec premier of the Czech SR. It appointed Zdenek Horcik to the post of deputy premier of the Czech SR.

Yesterday, on the historic premises of the Old Bohemian Assembly in Prague Castle, the newly appointed premier and deputy premier of the Czech SR took the oath prescribed by the Constitution. The solemn ceremony was attended by the deputy chairmen and other members of the CNR Presidium and by deputy premiers and ministers of the Czech Government.

In his opening speech CNR Chairman Josef Kempny stated that the government of the Czech SR and each of its individual members are responsible to our entire society and the Czech nation for the further all-round development of the socialist country. The Czech Government, as well as the CNR, proceed from a common basis, namely from the 17th CPCZ Congress resolution, which has become the program of the entire National Front.

The tasks that follow from it, Josef Kempny went on to say, and above all the acceleration of socioeconomic development, together with a substantial enhancement of the efficiency and effectiveness of our national economy, affect all aspects of our society's life, and all our state and economic agencies. This is even more apparent today, when we are faced by the none-too-easy tasks connected with the restructuring of the CSSR's economic mechanism. The decision taken by the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and the Federal Government to start restructuring the overall system of management of the national economy means that one of the most important points of the 17th CPCZ Congress resolution is beginning to be fulfilled—namely, the conclusion based on a thorough analysis of the long-term development of our economy, as well as on the new requirements of the strategic line of accelerating the socioeconomic development of our society. This is particularly true today after the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee session, which underscored the importance of science as the decisive force in restructuring socialist society in the way outlined by Comrade Gustav Husak when he stressed full support for the resolution adopted by the CPSU Central Committee's January session and its creative implementation under our conditions.

Every one of us has his specific place in the accomplishment of all the tasks of this complicated period. In the same way the two new leading representatives of the government of the Czech SR are expected to do all they can to help to create conditions for greater intensification, efficiency, and quality of work and the rapid and consistent application of science and technology in all spheres of life, Josef Kempny stressed; he added that the CNR will do its utmost to help them in this.

He concluded by congratulating the two government representatives of the Czech SR on their appointment to the high state posts and wished them much success in their responsible work for the upsurge of our fatherland.

Marie Jarosova, CNR deputy chairman, then read the text of the oath prescribed by the constitution. Ladislav Adamec, premier of the Czech SR, and Zdenek Horcik, deputy premier of the Czech SR, took the oath, saying "I promise" and shaking hands with the CNR chairman.

Then Ladislav Adamec took the floor. He said that, in resolving our current tasks, we are seeking support in the progressive traditions of the Czech nation and in the 18 years of experience in the work of the Czech Government. However, one cannot live from the notions and practices of past decades--there is a lot that must be changed, overcome, and improved all around us.

The basis of all our plans is ensuring the growth of our national income and the creation of material and spiritual values. This longstanding task can only be accomplished today by following the intensive path--by improving people's qualifications, the quality of work, and the quality of the product of this work. At the same time we bear the burden of environment problems. We cannot neglect health care and care for man's well-being; nor can we neglect care for production growth, without which we cannot exist today. The one cannot be resolved to the detriment of the other. The linkage between these needs requires a lot of knowledge and resources, but at the same time it requires initiative, courage, and determination, Ladislav Adamec stated.

He stressed that the Government of the Czech SR can also rely on the rich experience and awareness of the workers class, cooperative farmers, and intelligentsia. People with a sincere and honest attitude to the republic are the real bearers of the progressive legacy of the more than 1,000 years of development of Czech statehood. Their creative deeds embody the high standards of education, culture, skill, and know-how, of linkage with socialism and its noble ideals. We want to inform the broad public promptly and thoroughly about our goals, he said, and we want to take the people's views into account. In the interests of this we want to avoid all bureaucratic procedures uncompromisingly.

For us, too, the ideas of the CPSU Central Committee's session provide a strong impetus for a more critical and self-critical approach to the evaluation of what has already been achieved, the Czech premier said. These ideas provide an answer to questions about the causes of many of our difficulties, and they show us the road toward rectification. They provide prospects for the future. We are orienting ourselves toward implementing these ideas creatively and specifically.

In conclusion he assured the CNR representatives that the Government of the Czech SR will make every effort, apply every resource, and make use of every possibility to cope with the tasks confronting it.

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CSO: 2400/210

CHAMBER OF NATIONS ELECTS NEW CHAIRMAN

LD231850 Prague CTK in English 1723 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Prague, 23 March (CTK)--Deputies of the House of Nations of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly elected at their second meeting here Monday Jan Janik chairman of the House of Nations and Deputy Anton Blazej Presidium member of the Federal Assembly.

Jan Janik and Anton Blazej replaced Deputy Dalibor Hanes who resigned from these two functions. Jan Janik and Anton Blazej were elected by a secret vote by 62 Czech and 66 Slovak deputies.

New Chairman of the House of Nations Jan Janik stressed in his address that the restructuring is a very complicated process which requires high involvement of all working people, a concentrated and united effort of the state, economic, trade union and other organs and organizations under the leadership of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. It places responsibility on all links of the political system--on the party, state and the national front organizations. The Federal Assembly and both its houses occupy an irreplaceable position, which must fix firmly the changes which are being carried out by legislative norms.

The restructuring must be aimed at high participation of working people in the management, at expansion of socialist democracy and development of democratic self-government of people in harmony with the Leninist conception, Jan Janik underlined.

The time of an irreconcilable fight against everything which impedes the development has arrived, the time of full understanding and support for everything active and progressive, which contributes to the effort of the whole society for the strengthening and growth of the standard of living of the people, he pointed out.

[Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 1500 GMT on 23 March adds the following: "Deputies of the Chamber of Nations of the Federal Assembly met at their second session in Prague today. It was attended by member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee Peter Colotka, Alois Indra and Josef Kempny; secretaries of the CPCZ Central Committee Mikulas Beno and Jindirch Polednik and other representatives."]

/12858

CSO: 2020/81

VACLAVIK ADMITS DRUG PROBLEM IN ARMY

AU191254 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 16 Mar 87 p 2

[CTK report: "The Main Task--Defending the Homeland"]

[Excerpts] Tabor (CTK)--The Fifth Conference of the Socialist Youth Union [SSM] of the Western Military District, which marked the culmination of the preparations of the Army Youth Organization for the 4th SSM Congress, was held in Drazice near Tabor on Saturday [14 March].

The report noted that in spite of successes that have been achieved, the work of some youth union organizations continues to have the character of one-shot campaigns and is marked by formalism and holds little sway over soldiers who are not organized in the SSM. Youth union collectives must concentrate more in their activity on strengthening discipline and improving relations among soldiers, reducing the number of disciplinary offenses, waging an effective struggle against alcoholism, properly looking after the technology entrusted to them, and increasing their influence to make sure that soldiers spend their free time in a sensible way.

Among the speakers in the debate was also Army General Milan VACLAVIK, CSSR minister of national defense. He paid tribute to the successes achieved by SSM members of the Western Military District in combat and political training in the past period. He described the battle readiness of units, their ability to defend the homeland and socialism at all times, as the main criterion of all work in the Czechoslovak People's Army.

The approach of SSM organizations to strengthening military discipline is also important, as is enhancing the organized nature of army life, and making SSM members and functionaries set an example. He also stressed the need to reinforce the struggle against negative phenomena such as alcoholism and some manifestations of drug addiction [toxikomanie].

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CSO: 2400/216

BURGLARY, CRIMINALITY, DRUG ADDICTION FIGURES

AU271436 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Mar 87 p 2

[CTK report: "Offenses Against Property Are Most Frequent; Alcohol Plays Great Role in Punishable Offenses Committed"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)--Offenses against property are the most frequent criminal activity in the sphere of general crime. Last year members of the National Security Corps exposed 53,000 criminal deeds and 46,000 transgressions against private and socialist property in the Czech SR. The damage caused by this antisocial activity amounted to Kcs240.3 million.

The most frequent forms of offense against property are burglary, theft, and swindle. The main problem involves apartment burglaries in Prague and other large cities and industrial centers with a high population density. For example, in the Czech SR last year a total of 3,500 apartments were burgled, with damage amounting to Kcs43 million. The causes are always the same--inadequate securing of apartments with reliable locks, people's disinterest in what is going on in their house, their irresponsible attitude toward property. They often keep large amounts of money in their apartments, saving books without a password [bez hasla] lying around, fur coats, antiques, and other valuables which are not properly secured.

Last year--compared with 1985--the number of punishable offenses in the nature of general crime increased by 883 to 83,532, and there were 61,259 transgressions. These punishable offenses inflicted damage to socialist and private property amounting to Kcs 312 million. These offenses were committed by more than 70,000 perpetrators, of whom almost 33,000 had a previous criminal record.

The most serious type of general crime is violent crime. Last year agencies in the National Security Corps investigated 14,070 violent criminal offenses, of which they solved 94 percent.

The criminal activity of youth also cannot be ignored. With a 21-percent share in general crime last year there was not much change compared with previous years. While investigating young people's antisocial activity, members of the National Security Corps also investigated crimes committed against youth, especially the endangering of young people's moral education. A total of

840 instances of this kind were recorded. Something which is also involved is the serving of alcoholic beverages to juveniles—last year there were 1,210 such punishable offenses and transgressions—as well as sexual abuse.

Alcohol continues to play a great role in criminal activity—26 percent of criminal offenses in the sphere of general crime were influenced precisely by alcohol.

Great attention is also being paid to criminal activity connected with non-alcoholic toxicomania. A total of 1,578 cases were discovered last year. The public Security Corps investigated 184 youth groups with 243 members who were using various toxic substances. Last year toxic substances killed 27 persons, and 33 persons committed or tried to commit suicide under their influence.

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CSO: 2400/210

CITIZENS COMPLAIN ABOUT AIR POLLUTION SECRECY

AU181140 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 11 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Jiri Kasal, head of the Living Environments Department of the North Bohemian Regional National Committee in Usti Nad Labem, by Karel Rouc: "All About Inversion; on Certain Problems of Living Environments in the North Bohemian Region"--date and place not given; first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Excerpts] This January and February our editorial office received several letters pointing out the heavy air pollution in northern Bohemia during inversion conditions. In this context readers complained that they had not been sufficiently warned about the dangers involved. Some readers even expressed the belief that pertinent data are being concealed in the North Bohemian Region. For this reason we asked Jiri Kasal, head of the Living Environments Department of the North Bohemian Regional National Committee in Usti Nad Labem, for an interview.

[Rouc] What is inversion, and how often does it appear in the North Bohemian Region?

[Kasala] This year we registered two periods when the concentration of emissions exceeded the permitted limit due to inversion. The periods concerned were from 16 to 22 January and from 2 to 6 February.

[Rouc] How do you acquire data about air pollution?

[Kasala] By means of a prognosis and signals system which observes the state of the air in the area of the North Bohemian basin--that is, in the Chomutov, Most, Teplice, and Usti Nad Labem districts, as well as in the adjacent parts of the Louny, Litomerice, and Decin districts. The system was introduced in 1981 and operates regularly in the period when inversion occurs from 1 September to 15 April; the system consists of 13 control stations. Whenever 5 of them register values beyond the set limits we take certain measures.

[Rouc] Who has to cut back production?

[Kasala] Regulation measures apply to all North Bohemian electric power plants and to large enterprise heating plants; 23 sources of pollution are affected.

[Rouc] Nevertheless, people here are complaining that the information issued to them is insufficient; that they find out about an inversion too late; and that many people do not even know what to do in a period when dispersion conditions worsen.

[Kasala] I am convinced that many useless complaints and panicky rumors would disappear if the press were to publish articles in autumn explaining the nature of inversion and the main rules to be followed.

[Rouc] This means that data on living environments are not secret?

[Kasala] On the contrary; surely the people are entitled to know what is happening around them. And school directors or functionaries of national committees and other agencies in some places turn inversion into a confidential matter, this contradicts the principles issued on the subject.

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CSO: 2400/216

MORAVIAN RIVER POLLUTERS SENTENCED

AU301038 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 20 Mar 87 p 2

["JT"-signed report: "Sentences For Oil Accident"]

[Text] Ostrava (Our Correspondent)--The Senate of the Ostrava District Court handed down sentences on 5 employees of the Ostrava Plant 04 of the Cement and Lime Works Hranice on Thursday [19 March]. They had been found guilty of having negligently caused great damage when mazut leaked from the enterprise's boilerroom last November.

The costs of the elimination of the consequences of the crude oil accident on the Rivers Lucina, Ostravice, and Odra alone have already exceeded Kcs1 million. The damage caused by heavy heating oil in neighboring Poland has not yet been estimated.

Otakar Prikryl, the power engineer of the enterprise, was sentenced to 18 months of unconditional privation of freedom in the first correctional group, banned from carrying out the function of power engineer for 3 years, and directed to pay compensation amounting to Kcs12,108. Maintenance foreman Pavel Petruska, was sentenced to 1 year of unconditional privation of freedom, banned for carrying out plumbing work connected with piping crude oil substances for 2 years, and directed to pay compensation amounting to Kcs12,350. Maintenancemen Karel Pokluda, Viktor Skrzypek, and Petr Weimann were sentenced to 20 percent deduction from their wages for 8 months.

The sentences are not in force yet.

Party disciplinary proceedings have also been concluded in the Ostrava Cement Works with ranking personnel--communists, who--because of their inconsistent control of subordinates--bear a share of the responsibility for the mazut leak. The Presidium of the CPCZ City Committee approved party punishment--reprimand with warning--for the director of the enterprise, Engineer Vaclav Simecek, and for leading foreman Frantisek Celta.

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CSO: 2400/216

FURTHER REPORT ON AIDS THREAT

AU311536 [Editorial Report] Prague MLADA FRONTA's Weekend Supplement Vikend No 12 in Czech on 28 March on page 3 carries an approximately 4,500-word Karel Pacner article headlined "The Threat Called AIDS."

In his article Pacner quotes docent Dr. Lubomir Syrucek, head of a Prague laboratory specializing in AIDS-related tests, as having said that thus far, four persons suffering from AIDS have been identified in the Czech SR, "one of them an African female student who immediately returned home." The remaining three infected persons are Czech homosexuals "who spent some time abroad." A total of 36 persons with the HIV-1 virus in their blood were identified, "of which 12 were foreigners from Equatorial Africa, who immediately departed." The infected persons are "from the ranks of homosexuals, drug addicts, and, unfortunately, also hemophiliacs, who had received foreign blood preparations in the past. It is obvious that the number of infected will increase in the future. Among blood donors, not a single infected person was discovered." Syrucek said.

In another part of his article, Pacner cites Syrucek as having said that "despite the fact that in our country we only check Africans from the risk regions who live here, AIDS is also rapidly increasing in many West European countries, whose tourists, artists, experts, and businessmen frequently come to our country for a brief stay. We cannot check those, and therefore we can only warn against them. Our citizens abroad should be equally careful," Syrucek said, according to Pacner.

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CSO: 2400/210

LENART ADDRESSES SLOVAK WRITERS CONGRESS

LD032301 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Editor Ladislav Mikus reports in detail on the deliberations of the Congress of the Union of Slovak Writers in Bratislava today.

The Congress of Slovak Writers was addressed by Jozef Lenart, head of the CPSL Central Committee delegation. He greeted those present on behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic. After that, he briefed those present on the current situation in the development of the national economy and the plans for the future period. When talking about the effort of the party, about further progress of our society, he said, among other things:

[Begin Lenart recording] Together with science and the educational system, culture plays the key role in the ideological struggle of our society. Comrade Gorbachev was justified when he stressed at the January session of the CPSU Central Committee the significance of the first steps in the restructuring of spiritual life. I quote: Without a breakthrough in social consciousness and without changes in the psychology, thinking and sentiments of the people we cannot achieve success. This is also valid in our conditions. At the same time we are aware of the fact that the struggle for the new way of thinking on the part of the people is a long-term one, it is complicated and difficult, it cannot be glossed over by some sort of outwardly affected cultural campaign. No political slogans, no ideological theses can replace live words of writers, the impressive and captivating speech of art. All management, scientific and educational structures must pay attention to the all-around development of personality; a front-ranking place being taken by journalism, literature and art. Our communist party, our people are proud of the current socialist literature, of the developed socialist art. We know that the works of the Slovak authors are being more and more often translated abroad, in the USSR and in the other socialist countries. Many books published in the past few years, above all prose works of the authors of the middle generation, have gained popularity by thousands of grateful readers.

As in all spheres of human activity, also in literature, however, we are asking the question of whether or not we have achieved our peak, where we have a reason to be satisfied. No doubt, we can be proud of what we have

achieved. But creative dissatisfaction, paths of search, discovery and solution of conflicts are characteristic of writers and creators and communists in general. We do not want to prescribe any models for good literature. We do not wish to instruct masters of culture in the affairs of their complicated work from this platform or from any other forum. However, we sincerely want to encourage them, support them and win them over for literary works of art about the struggle for freedom, for peace, about our socialist epoch, imbued with truth and humaneness. Together with you, we enjoy every successful book, we like that you will not put up with mediocre work or substandard work. We are convinced that the time has come for the requirements of higher quality to be increased also in literature and art in general. We support the orientation on the present day, on the life and work of contemporaries, without underestimating assessment of history. A contemporary person is a builder of socialism, a pioneer of new ways of thinking and doing in social relations. We are living in interesting times which set out higher demands on all of us, which bring new conflicts in the struggle between the new and the old, during which new heroes of labor are being born, times which have in their midst also hesitant, disbelieving and cowardly people in thinking and doing. Readers, as well as society, justifiably expect from our writers a truthful depiction of life as it is. [end recording]

In the next part of his address at the Fifth Congress of the Union of Slovak Writers Comrade Jozef Lenart paid attention to the questions of the struggle for peace where literature plays an exceptionally significant role. The Congress of the Union of Slovak Writers is now culminating in the election of new organs.

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CSO: 2400/216

KORCAK ADDRESSES CZECH WRITERS

AU160811 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 4 Mar 87 p 4

[Report on the speech by Josef Korcak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and premier of the Czech SR, as head of the joint delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee and the government of the Czech SR to the Fourth Congress of the Czech Writers Union at the opening session on 3 March in Dobris: "Fuller Use of Our Resources and Possibilities"]

[Text] The head of the delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee and the government of the Czech SR began by stating that the deliberations of Czech writers are, like the deliberations of other artists' unions, among the significant events of this year. You have gathered 1 year after the 17th CPCZ Congress, which also set high goals on the cultural front, he said. We are convinced that we will work on them in the spirit of progressive traditions, in harmony with the demands of today, and in the awareness of responsibility for the future of our country and its people.

The intervening year since the deliberations of the 17th Party Congress makes possible a fuller and deeper understanding of the revolutionary nature of the strategy of accelerating the society's socioeconomic development. This long-term program cannot be seen as mere stepping up of the rate of progress; it is not merely the pursuit of higher production, broader expansion, or a larger number of things. In essence and purpose, the strategy of acceleration is primarily a strategy of qualitative transformations, of the restructuring of all sectors of social life. If we have not grasped this basic fact, we cannot realistically speed up anything, we cannot essentially change anything. This was very clearly shown by the CPSU Central Committee's January session.

Josef Korcak stressed that all areas and all people are affected by the need to achieve basic social transformations. The feasibility of this task depends on whether we can make it the concern of all people in every sector of practical life, make it the task of speeding up the economic, social, and spiritual development of the entire country. He pointed out that this is how people in the Soviet Union understand this basic issue. That is also why they are devoting such great attention to explaining the comprehensive nature of restructuring and to applying it to all areas of social life. Our party leadership is also aware of the principled, historical significance of the program of restructuring Soviet society as a source of knowledge and of valuable incentives, he stated. We see in it the consistent and creative continuation of the revolutionary feat

of the Great October 1917, we see it as the path toward a fuller utilization of the possibilities and advantages of socialism. We fully support this course. We want to creatively implement the incentives and ideas of the January session as broadly as possible, under our own conditions, to solve our problems. The attitude to the CPSU's experience and to its contribution to the theory and practice of world socialism always was, is, and will be a matter of principle for us. However, in this serious matter we will not agree to any demagoguery or one-upmanship; we reject all attempts to nourish personal ambitions and to introduce subjectivist viewpoints.

We appreciate the warm approval with which the broad public--Communists, nonmembers of the party, members of other parties in the National Front, people from all kinds of professions and age groups--receives the bold innovative course of the Soviet Communists. Our main concern is that the Soviet Union's growing authority, its weight in the world, and the initiatives which it is undertaking for the cause of peace and social progress, should also help the working people of our country to be even more successful in building our fatherland.

The implementation of the strategy of acceleration in practical life demands that we lose no time, that we proceed energetically, but also circumspectly and prudently, Josef Korcak said. Recently, we commemorated the 39th anniversary of Victorious February, this great watershed in the modern history of our state. What does it mean, to profess allegiance to its revolutionary legacy? Above all, it means to approach the present tasks in a revolutionary manner, to show the ability and determination to march steadily forward, not to stop, not to become fossilized, not to succumb to self-gratification.

Josef Korcak called the restructuring of the economic mechanism the biggest problem in economic management and in the planning and organizational methods of the last 4 decades. He asked whether we are not in this way, weakening the greatness of what we have achieved, whether we are not overrating the change of conditions, whether we are not unnecessarily relinquishing something which took us a long time to become accustomed to and which cost us such great effort. This is absolutely not so, he stressed. A supercilious attitude to the struggles of yesterday is alien to us; we must protect such hard-won values; we must continue building on the forever valid lessons which we have learned. This is one aspect. But we must also take another aspect into account; that is, that many things have changed in the meantime; and this means that we must look at some issues in a new light. We must move ahead, we must make better decisions, we must do better work.

When we were just starting to build socialism, we relied solely on general Marxist-Leninist theory and on the USSR's experience. We learned, we sought, we tested in life's struggles. At that time, socialism was a very new social system; the transition from one social system to another had many peculiarities and many extraordinary aspects. It was often necessary to introduce new forms of production and of social development from above, linking the enthusiasm of those revolutionary times with the force of power from the center. Moreover, at that time we saw many problems in a simplified way; the path toward the socialist goals seems easier to us.

Today, when we already rely on our own rich experience and on the experience of the other countries of our community, it is crucial to make full use of this experience, so that our social system operates from internal economic, political, and moral incentives, so that it becomes a more efficient mechanism than capitalism, so that it rationally affects the shaping of the people's needs, and so that it contributes in the best way possible toward satisfying them. And here we still have a lot to do, a lot to correct and improve, the head of the delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee and the government of the Czech SR remarked. We must prove that socialism's supremacy lies both in the humane nature of its ideas and in the results and development of production forces, science, and technology, in the social sphere, in arts and culture, and in society's morality.

Josef Korcak next spoke of the catchword of today--scientific-technical progress, which is the main source of the growth of labor productivity. We, too, must not waste time or ignore the demands of the scientific-technical revolution he said. The advantages of socialism, the possibilities of increasing social riches and of establishing conditions to shorten working hours and to raise a comprehensively developed man, are all based on the development of science and technology. Any other understanding of socialism--like a socialism of barracks uniformity, of egalitarianism in shortages, or of ascetic renouncement--has led in the past, and leads at present, to discrediting socialism's noble goals. The inadmissibility and harmfulness of such oversimplified notions, which are essentially alien to the cause of the workers class, has today become clear not only in theory, but also on the basis of practical examples.

J. Korcak pointed out that the necessary rate of social progress cannot be ensured without scientific-technical development. This fact has become more obvious today than at any time in the past, and one can scarcely doubt it. However, it cannot be understood technocratically, in a dehumanized way. The strategy of accelerating socioeconomic development unambiguously and consciously pushes two factors to the fore, two factors which must operate as single unity: the broader implementation of science and technology in practice, and the growing role of man as the creator and user of science, as the person handling science, as its master.

In view of the growing needs, scientific-technical development continues to be one of the weak links of our economy. One of our main tasks is to shape the people's more active attitude to the achievements of science and technology; to enhance interest in the implementation of new progressive technologies in practical life; and to enhance the readiness to master modern knowledge and new technical skills. We want to establish better prerequisites, possibilities, and scope for scientific-technical progress. Technology must have a more important place in our life, in workplaces, households, and the facilities providing cultural values. It should not keep a person away from spiritual and physical activities or from collective forms of work and entertainment. On the contrary, it should liberate man from routine and scarcely productive work; it should enable a person to become the real creator and controller of production processes and to devote far more energy and time to his overall spiritual development, to which literature and arts significantly contribute.

The struggle for higher labor productivity and for restructuring the economic mechanism is inseparably linked to the implementation of that old demand of the workers and communist movement—the demand for social justice, Josef Korcak continued. Our society needs it to distribute our common riches according to the only correct criterion—work. The lack of adequate remuneration for work done certainly does not create sufficient interest in raising the quality of this work, in the promotion of technical progress, or in the growth of knowledge and its application.

The program of social restructuring also has a striking moral aspect. The scientific-technical revolution must also be accompanied by a moral revolution. Without it the social mechanism which stimulates entrepreneurship and initiative would operate in a distorted way. It is not only inevitable, from an economic standpoint, it is also demanded by socialist ethics to push through people with high performance, high qualification, and a sense of social responsibility. The same purpose is also served by our orientation toward strengthening the role of social policy and establishing ever better conditions in housing, shopping, culture, and sports. We do not regard the rearing of socialist man as a matter of enlightenment, of preaching slogans and appeals; we understand it as a creation of realistic conditions for man's allaround development. It is precisely these people who will receive just remuneration and who will be decently provided for; it is exactly these people who will not be able to do without clearcut examples in life, without legal and moral norms, without leadership ideas which make it possible to distinguish between good and evil, between truth and lies, while suppressing what the exploitative systems have been cultivating in man for centuries—egocentrism, ruthlessness toward others, and a petit bourgeois attitude which has acquired a peculiar and dangerous shape in our society. Literature and arts cannot replace policy or economy. But together they can achieve a lot—particularly, in truthfully depicting reality and the ethical ideal of our times. That is why we support your efforts now, and will also support them in the future; and why we feel respect for your work.

Josef Korcak recalled the recent international gathering "For a Nuclear-Free World, for Mankind's Survival" in Moscow; its basic ideas teach us to live together in peace, to ensure the safety of all mankind, and to look for paths leading to mutual understanding; they place a great responsibility on the culture of every nation. It is in the spirit of these ideas that the citizens of our country, too, approach their every-day work, their worries and joys, and the hopes and concerns of the world in the second half of the eighties. And culture, too, can contribute a great deal toward enabling the people to cope with these new realities, to find their place and their opportunities in them, and to assert themselves. It can even be said that the efforts of the struggle for peace would suffer quite a loss, were culture not activated in this struggle.

We have serious tasks ahead of us; we set high goals for ourselves, Josef Korcak stated. The world around us, and also in us, increasingly demands the involvement of the whole man, his heart and his mind, his will and his knowledge, his sense of the truth, and his sense of the needs of others. No path leads this way except the path of developing democracy, expanding the scope of initiative and of criticism, enhancing the flow of information, and strengthening responsibility. No social system by itself is capable of making fights

or ensuring things for people; everything has to be done by the people. Only they can make things come true--by their work, their creations, by their own effort, adherence to principles, and courage.

The program of accelerating socioeconomic development must become the concern of our entire society; it also counts on the active contribution of our cultural and artistic front to change the people's way of thinking. We are establishing the necessary prerequisites in order to make our share of this front as large as possible. We are striving to win over all honest artists to active participation in the implementation of the cultural policy set down by the CPCZ and by our socialist state. We are trying to make possible the fullest assertion of all talents; we are providing scope for creative discussions; and we are giving high priority to care for the young generation of creators. Our concern is for the allround improvement of the work of artists unions, so that new methods, ideas, and approaches can become part of their activity, and so that the largest number of members and nonmembers can participate in their work.

As in other sectors of social life, the need to raise standards of quality, and not to be satisfied with the average, but to set higher demands, also takes precedence in artists' work. We require socialist art to assert its vanguard, exploratory, and discovering mission. In keeping with the requirements of our life and with the growing demands of the broad public, we must also promote a critical view in this field. We are concerned with maintaining a principled approach to artists' work, one which has nothing in common with bureaucracy, insensitivity, or sycophancy. We build our approach on the methods of ideological influence, of winning and convincing people. Quite a number of justified social and economic demands emerged during the preCongress discussion. We will endeavor to resolve all that is in our power and within our jurisdiction.

It is vital for us to move forward, to make broader and fuller use of our resources and our possibilities, Josef Korcak said. We are convinced that the Czech Writers Union will march together with us on this road, deeply convinced that this corresponds to its humanist mission and to the conviction of all its members. This is in harmony with the writers' traditional share in social and national struggles and in social progress, in the shaping of a happy life that is rich in material, cultural, and moral values. We wish you many creative successes, and much energy and health.

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CSO: 2400/210

DEBATE AT WRITERS' CONGRESSES

AU142016 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 6 March on page 5 and on 7 March on page 5 publishes "in an abbreviated form" statements by 11 writers and literary critics made during the debates of the Fourth Congress of the Union of Czech Writers (held in Dobruška on 3-4 March) and the Fifth Congress of the Union of Slovak Writers (held in Bratislava on 3 March). The statements range between 300 and 1,200 words. While most of them concern recent literary production in Czechoslovakia and problems of publishing, the social standing of literature, and literary criticism, some speakers address general social issues and literary problems with wider social implications.

The Czech writer Jan Suchl, for example, draws attention to pollution in the country. He says: "Hardly a day passes without our reading about some ecological disaster in our streams. Concerned, we ask--what is going on here? Nothing more than the fact that until recently nothing had been written on this subject. The statistics say that over the last 10 years, I have figured out, there have been some 225 such disasters every year. Water is getting worse, the sulfurous cloud over our heads is getting thicker and thicker. When publishing my volume of pictures 'The Silence of the Jizerske Hory' 10 years ago, I had no idea that what I saw as the silence of majestic beautiful deep forests would in an incredibly short time turn into the silence of a dead forest, that the dying of the Krusne Hory would soon be followed by Jizerske Hory, Krkonose, and other mountain ranges. At that time the forecasts of forest experts that 30 percent of our forest vegetation would perish by the year 2000 sounded like a horror story to me, but today we hear--I heard on television last week--that 50 percent of our forests are damaged."

Suchl urges his colleagues to make the environmental issue a "public, all-people's affair in the best and broadest sense of the word," to write about institutions and individuals who "damage and destroy the environment, often on a grand scale," and not to let themselves be "hoodwinked" by the thought that "these issues are in the good hands of experts": "Even experts can err, they can be the captives of their narrow departmental, local, or personal interests, they can be halfhearted and fail to show the needed initiative, or they can show it in the wrong way. Had this not been the case, the question would not even arise of whether the system of Nove Mlyny reservoirs and dams is of greater benefit than the extinct

lowland forests and unique ecosystem; we would not have to consider whether it is more beneficial for us to have the Brno motor racing track or hundreds of hectares of forests that have fallen victim to it; we would not have to ask why up to 25 percent of timber rots away in our forests while every owner of a house with central heating burns one hundred quintals of coal a year." Suchl also ridicules the fact that at a time when small boilers burning brushwood are in common use in the world and Czechoslovakia's neighbors even find it worthwhile to import sawdust from the CSSR, Czechoslovak producers are "developing" wood-burning stoves, "something which every village stovemaker used to be able not only to develop, but to build on the spot."

Jozef Bob, the co-author of a prize-winning Slovak television drama on the Slovak National Uprising, discusses the value of historical and biographical literature for shaping the national awareness and filling in "missing links" in the history of a nation. In this connection he says: "We have an awful lot of such missing links, taboos, painfully distorted, and forcefully erased and blocked-out spots--from the dawn of our history all the way up to the recent past. Publishing houses, movies, and television should remove this cultural deficit--not case by case, just during historical anniversaries, for example, but continuously and conceptually."

"It will be a matter of personal courage and bravery for the contemporary novelist or script writer not to remain silent about the tragic period of the fifties, to replenish, albeit belatedly, the political rehabilitation with the personal story and its message, to stop being indifferent to the fact that young people confuse Tiso with Clementis and the national trials of 1946 and 1947 with the political trials of the early fifties. There are more such important topics, topics that are insufficiently fixed in the memory of the nation. We do no service to the party and to socialism by keeping silent about some unpleasant facts, mistakes, and errors. The truth is not our enemy, but our ally. The search for, and the utterance of truth is a liberating act for the writer and the reader, for literature and society."

The Czech literary scientist Miroslav Zahradka discusses recent developments in Soviet literature, particularly the "reassessment" of a number of formerly "rejected" authors. According to Zahradka, this reassessment concerns three categories of writers--emigres, such as Bunin, who "either found their way to the Soviet reality or who in their outstanding works of art did not yield to beastly hatred for socialism but wrote in the spirit of humanism"; Soviet writers, such as Bulgakov, Pasternak, or Akhmatova, who "did not become one with socialism ideologically, but who stood on Soviet patriotism and revolutionary humanism"; and authors, such as Platonov, Zoschenko, or Mayakovskiy in his satires, who "stood fully on the ideological platform of socialism but who for some reason, frequently because of their satirical tone, elicited the distrust of critics and whose works used to be suppressed."

Zahradka cautions that "extremes do take place in this process of reassessment" in the Soviet Union and that these extremes will have to be considered in "receiving these works in our country." He points, for example, to the "revival of the traditions of Soviet decadence," a process in which "emphasis is placed solely on the artistic verbal mastery, regardless of the ideological message," but concludes that "such extremes are a marginal affair."

In his closing remarks Zahradka criticizes the reluctance in Czechoslovakia to translate and publish some of the more critical works of contemporary Soviet literature. He says that public declarations about the great "ideoeducational role" of Soviet literature "are sometimes at odds with voices of caution and warning and with attempts to suppress the reception of weighty Soviet works of art, especially dramas. It is incomprehensible that we do not underestimate the capacity of our reader or spectator to critically receive a work when it comes to critical, realistic, or even modernistic Western works, works that are frequently quite alien to us ideologically, but that someone should be afraid of the books and dramas of Soviet authors."

The Czech poet Karel Sys, who is also chairman of the CPCZ primary organization in the cultural weekly TVORBA, calls, among other things, for the abolition of topics that are "off limits" for critics. He says: "Anyone who has ever visited one of the political cabarets in Berlin (I am referring to contemporary Berlin) will confirm that they joke about topics that are highly taboo, without precipitating the state's collapse in the process. And, of course, also without bringing about the 'collapse' of the pertinent malpractices. In other words, it is a question of tact or, if you want, of political tactics."

"When an ugly scandal burst into the open in the Skoda factory years ago, journalists--and writers, too, I believe,--were ready to vent that stink, but to no avail. Today RUDE PRAVO carries a frank interview with the new Skoda director and, still, faulty cars have not stopped rolling off the assembly lines."

Speaking about authors that are out of bounds for critics, Sys also says: "In my long career (I have been working in newspapers since 1974) I can recall only one instance of a critic sending in a negative review of a book by a member of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Writers' Union. Overwhelmed by the arguments--I admit that we may have only pretended to being overwhelmed--we were ready to send the review to press. But in no time at all, the critic himself cabled us to stop everything. Disappointed by the editors' carelessness and lack of vigilance, he himself axed the review."

It is this sort of "self-censorship" that is "the cancer of literature," according to Sys.

A case of censorship is also mentioned in the statement by Slovak writer Anton Hykisch. He notes that "years ago," responding to an invitation from Czechoslovak Television, he wrote a television drama set in an electronics factory. However, according to Hykisch, it was deemed to be "unsuitable" for Czechoslovak viewers at that time, as it raised some "disconcerting" questions, and the project was never realized. Hykisch attributes this personal "setback" to the fact that "the need to effect changes in the mechanism of management to speed up our technical progress was not yet found in resolutions" at the time he wrote his play. In the meantime, he says, he used the material gathered for the play to write a book on electronics and its impact on the life of society, which will be published next month.

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CSO: 2400/216

JOURNAL DEPICTS TASKS OF SOCIALIST WRITERS

AU121037 Prague NOVA MYSL No 2 (1987) in Czech and Slovak, signed to press 5 Jan 87, pp 108-111

[Article by Doctor Jaromira Nejedly, assistant professor, candidate for sciences, and deputy chairman of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Association, under the rubric "Culture and Education": "Standing Guard With All Honest People On Our Continent"]

[Excerpts] Five uneasy years have passed since the last congress of the Czechoslovak Writers Union. The source of our literature was neither calm seas, nor barren islands. Our new works were born in an atmosphere of increased international tension, but also in a period of fruitful work in our country--a period of dynamic development and hopeful prospects. The literary front lived the life of its country and participated in the creation of new values through its specific function.

About 500 new Czech and Slovak books are being published annually in Czechoslovakia. They include prose and poetry, children's books, and works dealing with literary sciences. We can be satisfied with their quantity. However, we neither can be, nor should we be, satisfied with their quality. Understand me correctly: I am not saying that no good or outstanding literature has been born in the recent period. It has, and the readers know it. But here quality far from corresponds to quantity. This is also why in future we will strive to exclude from our literature all works that are below average, grey, conventional, and shallow.

Both our national literatures have rich democratic and progressive traditions. We want to continue developing them. On the other hand we must discard from these traditions, which we hold in deep respect, all inertia and routine which are essentially negative habits which are like hampering weights.

We must also work with new--that means conceptual--methods in propagating our literature abroad, beyond the borders of our fatherland. We will not promote weak and only average works, but on the other hand we must make time for publicity for the works of outstanding quality, works which will help the readers abroad see our life in a true light by their unity of ideological and esthetic qualities. The prestige of Czech and Slovak

literature in the international arena has recently risen, and justly so. National Artist Jaroslav Seifert was awarded the Nobel Prize, as an expression of respect for our progressive literature in general; individual works are winning recognition at international conferences, symposiums, and various meetings; at the Budapest forum, but also during the writers' meetings in Sofia and at the world congress in Paris, our delegations won respect through the power of the results they achieved. Interest in the Czech and Slovak literature is growing in the world; we are concluding an increasing number of contracts for the publication of our literary works in foreign languages. We must react to this interest by raising the quality and still further.

We realize that an exacting and critical attitude must become a permanent feature of the work of our writers' organization; that we must unmask far more consistently than in the past, in a principled party manner, all average, bland qualities in the emerging literary works. Naturally, this struggle for the quality of literary works will be linked with the struggle for promoting works of art in society as our specific tools for shaping man's mind. That is why we give allegiance to the basic tasks defined by the 17th CPCZ Congress for the Czechoslovak society at its entry into the nineties. Within this ideological and action framework, our organization, and we as individuals, still have a lot to do if we want to realize one of the guiding principles of our work: Namely, to be creative. This applies particularly to writers; they far more than anybody else must be capable of independent creativity on the firm foundations of their socialist conviction. This creative activity must be all-encompassing, and oriented not only toward a search for new tools in art, but above all toward the contents of their works. Here we proceed from the knowledge that an author cannot be a good socialist writer if he is not also a good socialist citizen, aware of his co-responsibility for the society's development. Throughout our history, a progressive writer was never interested in the sphere of literature or culture alone; he was always interested in the society as a whole--and especially in its spiritual and moral state and the prospects of its development. We, too, are not concerned with the problems of prose, poetry, or literary criticism alone, although they form the actual sphere of our activity. We are concerned with all that determines our life today and tomorrow; and this includes not only the topical issues of our society's further development, but also the problems of international relations, which are increasingly focusing our attention on the defense of peaceful work against the threat of an imperialist war, conducted with the use of most destructive means of modern warfare.

We realize that a writer's authority stems primarily from what he writes and what the readers have accepted as "theirs." But we also want the socialist writers' authority to be based on his capacity to apply socialist principles--which he considers to be his own, personal principles--in his entire writing activity and also in his civic activity.

If we proceed from this principled approach to work and to life, it is no exaggeration to say that we are most concerned when looking past our

country's western borders--and not merely into Western Europe, but above all into the United States, which is to blame for the present world being full of sharp conflicts and gravest dangers. Because of this, and on behalf of mankind's future, we must "stand guard with all honest people on our continent," as Josef Rybak says in one of his poems. In this active, antiwar attitude we are strengthened by the awareness that the socialist states are the main force of peace, on which the hopes of all people believing that the nuclear catastrophe can be averted and the destruction of human civilization prevented are focused.

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CS0: 2400/216

FOJTIK ADDRESSES JOURNALISTS CONGRESS

LD091059 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The Czech Journalists' Association Congress ended in Prague today. Vaclav Klement reports on its proceedings:

[Klement] Congress delegates focused their attention today on the address by the head of the CPCZ Central Committee delegation Jan Fojtik, candidate member of its Presidium and secretary.

He appreciated the critical and self-critical tone of congress deliberations which, as he said, shows the honest approach of the association and editorial offices toward the main tasks of the present. Then he spoke in detail about the role of the press, radio and television in working out the strategy of acceleration, what they can and have to do, and how to act to keep step with the present time. We have recorded from the speech by Comrade Josef Fojtik:

[Begin Fojtik recording] Where else if not in the mass media should a mirror be held up to reflect the present time with all its important problems, with all that which it brings for itself from the past, and for that which it strives, the tasks it sets itself. In this mirror, the truth of our present, our life, has to be reflected in full. It has to reflect all that in which we are strong, that which justifies us to set ourselves new goals, that which strengthens our confidence, that which strengthens our belief that we are moving along a correct path, and that which warns us against light-hearted attitudes, that which points at the necessity of a resolute struggle for new, high and perfected forms of life, that which stimulates us, helps us not to fall victim to self-satisfaction, not to lose our sense of responsibility for our preparing life for those who come after us. But the mass media is not only a mirror of the reality in society, and shares not a small coresponsibility for how this reality is being created.

Recently, Comrade Gorbachev mentioned this very responsibility at a meeting of press and cultural bodies. The mass media is a platform of democracy, real democracy, not only for general discussions, which could be exhausted by regular programs--I can say something about this--also included in the concept of this democracy is control, which makes an effective instrument

for criticism. All this puts special demands on the mass media. We are not indifferent to who and about what it reports. We say it is the voice of people. But what voice? What sort of an example does it popularize, what values does it emphasize, what is it fighting for? This influences to a considerable extent the atmosphere in society, the public's thinking, the mood of the people and their attitudes, the criteria by which they evaluate events and things around themselves. Thus we will insist on strict criteria for the evaluation of work of editorial offices in order that the mass media informs quickly and truthfully, in order that nothing is lost from the ideological character, convincingness and conclusiveness of arguments, the richness and attractiveness of forms; and in order to strive for a lifestyle which corresponds to the ideals for which our party is fighting and which, despite various obstacles in the way of our effort, we have managed to implement.

There are enough of those who consider the cause of socialism to be their own, vital affair; they have to have the main say, so to speak, in the pages of the press, on the screen, in radio programs. I think you understand me. I am not saying (?just one thing) and not preaching words. The popularization of exemplary action, exemplary life and work of these people, who are the true heroes of our time, has to be the center of attention of our mass media. Work which brings values for society is the main form of this heroism, because true heroism is unthinkable without a struggle--which is being born--without overcoming obstacles. Thus on the pages of our newspapers, on television screens, and in radio programs criticism has to have an important place. The party has always needed it, but has not always supported it properly. We need it today more than ever before, mainly because the implementation of the strategy of acceleration demands cleaning up the field to overcome all that which has been brought about by the extensive development of the economy, and because--and this goes hand in hand with it--we have to deal more resolutely with various abuses which weaken, devalue and often even damage the reputation of socialism.

/12858

GSO: 2400/216

KEMPNY ADDRESSES CZECH ARTISTS CONGRESS

LD260433 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 25 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The fourth congress of the Union of Czech Creative Artists ended in Prague today. Here is correspondent Lubos Lidicky:

[Lidicky] More than 200 delegates who here in the Josef Manes Hall represent almost 1,400 creative artists are listening to a discussion that is reacting to problems of our creative artists.

Our creative artists face great tasks: in their works they have to develop their art further in the spirit of tradition, and at the same time they have to resist hostile attempts to influence our culture. They have to fight against those who are bringing alien elements to it, who are imposing upon us esthetic, moral, and political criteria that are unacceptable to our socialist way of life. This was stressed by Josef Kempny, head of a delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee and the Czech Government, who has spoken in the discussion.

We are standing at a crossroads, he said, from which leads a path of searching, trying and changing of much of that we have been used to, and this applies to culture, too. Everyone, according to his own abilities, has to ensure the important social aims of the congress of our Communist Party and the subsequent sessions of its Central Committee. Let us do everything for the prosperity of our culture and art, let us create as many as possible new impressive art values. Culture, to be sure, is an important and permanent form of struggle for a new society. The party does not need from the art glorifying pictures, nor does it need to paint reality pink; but it does need a flexible depiction of the struggle for socialism, the speaker said. Josef Kempny went on to say:

[Begin Kempny recording] Comrades, the 17th congress of the party urgently appealed to artists to guide the force of art in favor of the new tasks of socialist construction. At its congress, the party said openly that it would not prescribe to anyone themes of artistic creation or ways of processing them. It is up to the artists themselves to seek the most convenient way of translating the great tasks of social progress into the language of art works.

However, the party is not and cannot be indifferent to the effect of art on the development of abilities and forces of the people. I do not think that

anybody expects that it is possible to become reconciled to ideas about art without social values, let alone to distorting the taste of the people. We are striving for the presence of more and more socialism, to use the words of Mikhail Gorbachev. This is the clear demarcation line for assessing the social contribution of our art. [end recording]

After the report of the mandate commission, the election of new union organs followed. National artist Jan Simota was unanimously elected head of the Union. The delegates to the congress then adopted a resolution that comprises a number of concrete proposals, notes and suggestions stemming from the discussion contributions.

In conclusion, the participants in the congress sent a greetings letter to the CPCZ Central Committee in which they stressed that they will dedicate all their creative abilities and strength to the development of socialist creative art in the future.

/8309

CSO: 2400/210

BBC PROGRAM ON MOVIE CENSORSHIP CRITICIZED

AU262051 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 19 Mar 87 p 3

[Jaroslav Kojzar commentary: "BBC's Peculiar Worries; Such Are the Fact"]

[Text] On one of the last days of February the BBC radio station broadcast a program dealing with Czechoslovakia, with "our practices" in selecting Western movies to be shown in the CSSR. We will not see, the commentator wept, "20 movies made in the West during the last 2 years." The Central Film Distribution selection commissions--which, as the BBC ironically remarks, "should rather be called censorship commissions"--have allegedly rejected the best that is to be had in the West, because "ideology stands above everything else." The emissaries of the state film agency "are traveling all over the world; and after returning home, they submit in writing the reasons why the movies they have seen should be purchased or rejected." In this way they discarded one film in West Berlin, another one in Havana, a third in Madrid. Even one of the Cuban (!) movies is unfit for use in our country, the BBC claimed.

We were interested in finding out the truth about this, and we asked Engineer Tugan Vesely, director of the institution referred to above, for his views. He told us:

"One can only wonder how the BBC can broadcast such nonsense. How can it be possible for one country to show all the movies made in the world in the course of 1 year?"

As Comrade Vesely said, the BBC would have done better to mention the movies that are actually shown in our country. For instance, six of the eleven movies that won the British Academy Award last year have already been bought for distribution in Czechoslovakia. But they were not the only successful films in England during the last 2-3 years. The British public fell in love with at least 20 other movies, which our citizens have either seen already or are going to see. Let us mention a few at random: Crocodile Dundee, Ran, Leagle Eagles, Agnes of God, the Name of the Rose....

Year after year our commissions view up to 1,000 full-length Western feature movies, buying 200 of them for our movie theaters.... How many cinemas do we have? A total of 2,800. In per capita terms only a few countries in the world have as many."

We are tempted to ask: Is Britain treating Czechoslovak movies in the same manner? Regrettably not. Our movies, even those with awards from international festivals, are not given a chance. Should the critics from Britain not sweep their own sidewalk first? Because, in fact, British movie theaters are full of "masterpieces" such as Rambo, mostly produced overseas and chock-full of murders, torture, sex, and terror. After all, even prominent Western filmmakers themselves confirm this.

"We show 400 movies annually, and 370 of them come from the United States," a director from a West European country said last year during a discussion at the International Film Festival in Karlovy Vary; "20 movies come from the EEC countries and only 9, or rather 6-7, from the rest of the world..." What kind of movie was he speaking about? This, too, was discussed at Karlovy Vary. For instance, another participant in the discussion said: "A lot of movies imported from the United States show chauvinist attitudes. An American is presented as a superior being, war as an adventure--and not as mankind's tragedy.... Cruelty is placed above the most basic values..."

Obviously, the BBC editors would be very glad to sell such and similar movies to us. No thanks; we are not interested. "We will continue to show our viewers," Director Vesely also said, "the very best of the movies produced in the world--and not some 'masterpieces' propagating violence, racism, a lack of confidence in man, kitsch, or hopelessness. This is also our right..."

/8309

CSO: 2400/210

BRIEFS

ZAHARDNIK RETURNS FROM GAMBIA--Jindrich Zahradnik, a chairman of the Central Council of Cooperatives, returned on 8 March from a session of the Executive Committee of the International Union of Cooperatives held in Banjul, Gambia. The session discussed new ways of assisting cooperative movements in the developing countries, the financial problems of the organization, and the preparations for the 29th Congress of the International Union Cooperatives, to be held in Sweden in 1988. [Summary] [Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 9 Mar 87 p 2 AU] /12858

COOPERATION WITH COLOMBIA, ECUADOR--The joint Czechoslovak-Colombian and the Czechoslovak-Ecuadorian Commissions for Economic Cooperation conducted talks in Bogota and Quito last week. The Czechoslovak delegation to the talks was headed by Vladimir Horak, director of a department of the CSSR Ministry of Foreign Trade. Colombia "manifested interest" in the participation of CSSR enterprises in the construction of power engineering facilities, "in increasing deliveries for agriculture," and in deliveries of CSSR engineering products. There also exists the possibility of deliveries of CSSR-made medical equipment for Colombian hospitals. In Ecuador, the delegation discussed the possibility of CSSR participation in the projects of the government program for the country's industrialization, for example, in the expansion of cement works or in the construction of lime works. Deliveries of construction machinery and trucks, too, are anticipated. [Summary] [Prague ZEMEDELSE NOVINY in Czech 12 Mar 87 p 2 AU] /12858

HAVLIN RECEIVES SED STUDY DELEGATION--Josef Havlin, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, today received the study delegation of the SED Central Committee. During a comradely conversation they informed each other about the fulfillment of the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the 11th SED Congress and the main tasks of the education and sciences of both parties in speeding up all around development of both countries. Comrade Josef Havlin then informed the participants about the results of the Fifth CPCZ Central Committee Session. [Text] [Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 20 Mar 87 LD] /12858

NEW TVORBA EDITOR--Jan Fojtik, candidate Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, introduced into his post today Jaroslav Cejka as the new editor in chief of the journal TVORBA. He stressed the significant mission of the journal in connection with progressive forms of our creative intelligentsia and its irreplaceable position on the cultural front in implementing the demanding tasks of the 17th party congress. He also praised the work of the present editor in chief, Jaroslav Korinek, who headed the journal for the past 10 years and contributed considerably to its present standard. [Text] [Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1400 GMT 31 Mar 87 LD] /8309

SLOVAK JOURNALISTS UNION ELECTS OFFICER--Bratislava, March 29 (CTK)--A two-day congress of the Union of Slovak Journalists ended here today. In a resolution, the Slovak journalists pledged they would actively help implementing the line of accelerated socio-economic development and reconstruction of Czechoslovakia's economic mechanism. Stefan Bachar was elected chairman of the union. [Text] [Prague CTK in English 1512 GMT 29 Mar 87] /8309

NEW TRANSMITTERS--Moscow April 1 (CTK correspondent)--At present Czechoslovak televiewers in Prague, Brno, Karlovy Vary, West Bohemia, and Banska Bystrica, Central Slovakia, can watch the Soviet first television program but as interest in Soviet TV programs increases new transmitters will be built to enable viewers in another four cities to watch Soviet TV programs this year. After eight transmitters are built in another eight towns in Czechoslovakia in the 1986-90 period, about 28 per cent of TV licensees will be able to watch Soviet programs, compared with the present 19 per cent. Czechoslovakia cooperates with the USSR also in the Inter-Sputnik program, which will increase the possibility of an international exchange of TV programs. A new Czechoslovak station included in this program should start operating in 1988 to widen the possibility of watching programs from the summer Olympic Games. [Text] [Prague CTK in English 1335 GMT 1 Apr 87] /8309

CSO: 2020/78

PZPR VOIVODSHIP PLENUMS HELD

Gorzow Wielkopolski on Economic Situation

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 24-25 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Jerzy Nogiec: "Gorzow Wielkopolski: Be More on the Offensive, Take Account of Results"]

[Excerpts] Gorzow Wielkopolski. The year 1986 was a bad one for the voivodship. It was the only one in the country with industrial production lower than year's, to be exact, 1 percent lower. Economic ratios also were worse.

The Plenum of the Voivodship Committee took up the figures for the various industrial branches one by one and made a critical assessment. Nonetheless, despite everything, the picture of the voivodship's economy is not all black, because alongside the subjective causes, the managerial neglect in various plants, the main reasons for the bad results lay outside the working forces and were independent of them.

Two main ideas prevailed throughout the deliberations: be more on the offensive in every area of work, and take an accounting of all effects of work.

Wiktor Kinecki, First Secretary of the Voivodship Committee, chaired the plenum. A change was made in the membership of the Voivodship Committee's secretariat. Edward Korban was named the new secretary of propaganda.

Koszalin Fights 'Conservatism'

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 24-25 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Jan Urbanowicz: "Koszalin: Pull Up Above the Mean Line"]

[Excerpts] Koszalin. The basic question to which answers were sought at the plenary session of the Koszalin PZPR Voivodship Committee held this 23 June was: How to implement in economic practice the targets which were ratified by the Tenth Party Congress and translated into concrete terms at the Third Plenum of the Central Committee, and what sort of barriers need to be

overcome, in order to produce more and better, so that the existing national assets can bring about far greater social benefits than they presently do?

The paper of the board, which was read by Eugeniusz Jakubaszek, First Secretary of the Voivodship Committee, presented a critical analysis of the economic results which the voivodship achieved in 1986.

There are still great untapped reserves in the voivodship economy. The greatest block to raising economic effectiveness is that of conservatism, many years of becoming accustomed to average work and average pay. Party members and activists must play a special role in breaking down this barrier.

The people at the plenum adopted this tone. The first secretaries and directors of the voivodship's 40 largest factories were invited. One of the people taking the floor during the discussion was Zdzislaw Kepinski, First Secretary of the PZPR Plant Committee at Unitrze-Uniten in Bialogard. He asked how people could talk about the operation of economic laws, when any change in rates of pay in a provincial factory still requires the approval of two ministers.

Other people taking part in the discussion pointed out the urgent need to adapt financial regulations to the principles of enterprise self-financing. Edmund Olczak, director of the Koszalin PKS, for example, pointed out that the firm had to pay a tax on individual above-standard pay given to drivers as a bonus for saving fuel and tires.

At the end of the meeting, the Voivodship Committee adopted a resolution precisely describing the individual tasks for party organizations and echelons and for the economic administration in implementing the resolutions of the Tenth Party Congress.

New Secretary for Biala Podlaska

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 26 Jan 87 p 2

[Article: "Biala Podlaska: Jozef Oleksy Named First Secretary of the Voivodship Committee"]

[Excerpts] The socioeconomic tasks of the voivodship party organization in 1987 in the light of the resolutions of the Third Plenum of the PZPR Central Committee were discussed on 24 January at a plenary session of the PZPR Voivodship Committee in Biala Podlaska.

Tadeusz Porebski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, attended the session.

The inculcation of the second stage of the economic reform will be the most important party task in the economic sphere, in keeping with the decisions of the Tenth Party Congress.

The plenum recalled Czeslaw Staszczak from the position of First Secretary of the Party Voivodship Committee in Biala Podlaska, in connection with his assumption of duties in the central government administration.

The plenum named Jozef Oleksy to be First Secretary of the Party Voivodship Committee.

Biography

Jozef Oleksy was born into a working-class family in Nowy Sacz. He is 40. In 1969 he graduated from the Department of Foreign Trade, SGPIŚ in Warsaw. In 1977 he received his doctorate in economic sciences. He entered the party in 1968. He began his sociopolitical work while still in college. For two terms he served as member of the presidium of the main board of SZSP and chairman of the All-Polish Council of Young Teaching Staff. He was active in the SGPIŚ party organization, serving, for example, as secretary of the party's campus committee. In 1977 he was appointed to work in the Ideological-Training Department of the PZPR Central Committee. He was secretary of the basic party organization and secretary of the party plant committee (KZ PZPR) of the party's Central Committee.

In November 1981 he was named director of the CKR Office of PZPR and served in this capacity until the Tenth Party Congress. He is author over a dozen scientific publications and sociopolitical articles. In the course of successive staff reviews, he has been included among the party's central staff reserves. He is married and has two children.

Reform Improvements Noted in Poznan

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 26 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Henryk Heller: "Poznan"]

[Excerpts] The Poznan Voivodship party meetings are currently discussing the tasks stemming from the resolutions of the Third Plenum of the Central Committee. The discussions are helping first of all to describe what can be done even now to take greater advantage of the possibilities which the reform has created for improving management in enterprises.

This was also the nature of the plenum deliberations which the Party Voivodship Committee in Poznan held on 24 January. Among those invited to a discussion of tasks implied by the resolutions of the Tenth Party Congress and the Third Central Committee Plenum were the first secretaries of the plant committees of the larger factories, along with directors and representatives of scientific institutions and organizations of NOT, TNOiK, and other bodies.

Edward Lukasik, First Secretary of the Voivodship Committee, chaired the discussion, which did not suffer from a lack of critical remarks. It was pointed out that shortcomings had resulted from poor management in several ministries in connection with making way for the second stage of the reform. Andrzej Frackowiak (not a party member), chairman of the Workers' Council of Tonsil in Wrzesin, expressed his thanks for the invitation to attend the

deliberations. People attending the plenum were especially interested in his assessment of the new organization of work called the systematic introduction of partnership groups.

Frackowiak said that the second stage of the reform could not be accomplished without transferring responsibility for work done to the bottom and, by extension to each and every job in the enterprise. This responsibility must be related to an understanding of the economic parameters governing the economy.

Gabriela Rembisz, alternate of the Central Committee's Politburo, attended the deliberations.

Critical Assessment in Skierniewice

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 26 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Jan. A. Kraszewski: "Skierniewice"]

[Excerpts] Among the 16 people who took the floor during the discussion, two evoked the greatest response among the other persons in attendance: Docent Stanislaw Rudolf, deputy director of the Institute of Political Economy, Lodz University; and Edward Muler, editor in chief of the weekly publication WIADOMOSCI SKIERNIEWICKIE.

The former presented an assessment of the past implementation of the economic reform, the various failures in managing the economy, and the threats to continued rationalization of our economy. The latter, on the other hand, took up the question of building up the awareness of managers and working forces and rebuilding the role of the mass media in this regard.

Only parts of two or three statements fit the subject. The rest consisted of the usual chatter and comments, reports nobody needed, and digressions that did not do anything for anybody.

This can and should disturb people. We can find concern and criticism of the economy of Skierniewice Voivodship in the address presented by Eugeniusz Goraj, Voivodship Committee secretary, and in the statements of First Secretary Leszek Miller, chairman of the deliberations.

The plenum members were generally interested in creating economic and managerial mechanisms to liberate existing untapped reserves in people and structures, which are often outmoded and dysfunctional. It was pointed out that one of the ways is a teamwork system. For example, Skierniewice experience at Vis in Rawa shows that this is a good way, although it is not for everyone. The technological and organizational conditions must determine whether or not to choose this system.

Party members were also reminded that it is their very role, their first duty, to be at the forefront of change, because leadership must not be limited to central officials. It must also take place at each work station, wherever something can be improved or made better.

Marian Wozniak, Politburo member and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, summed up the discussion. Before responding to certain statements, he made a short assessment of the economic situation in the country along with external conditions and barriers. The secretary said that unless the anticipated results are achieved, it is possible that the role of the central echelon will have to be increased. The party as a whole must work to create a mobilizing climate for the second stage of the reform and must concern itself with the economic education of its membership and people outside the party, because only then can we count on improved effectiveness of management and a better life.

Reader Attacks Skierniewice Reportage

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 19 Feb 87 p 5

[Letter by Adam Razik, member of PZPR Voivodship Committee in Skierniewice]

[Text] In my opinion, the freedom to express one's opinions and views must not thrust upon the society opinions, judgments, and assessments inconsistent with reality. I unfortunately came across just such an approach, when I read in your paper J. A. Kraszewski's account of the plenum of the Skierniewice Voivodship Committee concerning the voivodship party organization's tasks following from the resolution of the Third Central Committee Plenum in the realm of implementing the second stage of the economic reform.

I am a member of the Skierniewice Voivodship Committee and attended the plenum. My impressions differ from editor Kraszewski's. The fact is that those attending the plenum were greatly impressed by the statements made by Docent Stanislaw Rudolf and Editor Edward Mueller, but both of them also contained controversial elements that were unjustified or prejudicial in their interpretations. After all, though, party forms are more than mere academic discussion, and not all plenum members are college graduates. Thus, the discussion contained a number of voices, such as that of Karol Romaszewski, who made a number of valuable comments and reservations, except that as a blue-collar worker he spoke perhaps less forcefully and convincingly. The fact is that several parties to the discussion spoke too long and allowed their statements to diverge from the issue at hand, but generally each of the people taking part in the discussion brought up the subject of what should be done to take fuller advantage of the ways created by the reform to improve the way things are run. Therefore, it is contradictory to state in the report: "Only parts of two or three statements fit the subject."

Central Committee Secretary M. Wozniak argued with the statements of Docent Rudolf and Editor Mueller, especially with controversial elements in them, but Editor Kraszewski does not mention this either.

There is one other basic matter where my assessment is contrary to Editor Kraszewski's account. It concerns the report given by Voivodship Committee Secretary Eugeniusz Goraj and the response of Voivodship Committee First Secretary Leszek Miller. Editor Kraszewski says that these statements

contained a concerned, critical assessment of the Skierniewice Voivodship economy.

I listened carefully to both statements and, alongside criticism of certain phenomena occurring particularly in housing construction and the utilization of work time, I found there many examples of positive solutions to problems, such as, increasing market production, the effects of popularizing the work team form of labor, the inculcation of scientific and technical progress, and cooperation between enterprises and scientific research units not only in Poland but also abroad. The criticism of housing construction's accomplishments involved not only the awareness of the need for change but also the undertaking of a realistic measure, that is, the reorganization of the Skierniewice Construction Complex, which is the general contractor for housing construction.

I think, therefore, that the freedom of expression should be accompanied by reliability and honesty in putting forth one's views and opinions.

Tarnobrzeg Examines Five-Year Plan

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 31 Jan-1 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Jerzy Koziol: "Between Needs and Possibilities"]

[Excerpt] Tarnobrzeg. The deliberations of the Tarnobrzeg Party Voivodship Committee plenum were devoted to an assessment of the drafts of the voivodship socioeconomic plan for 1986-1990 and the plan for the current year, as well as to a discussion of the voivodship party organization tasks stemming from the Third Central Committee Plenum.

Janusz Basiak, First Secretary of the Voivodship Committee, chaired the plenum. Alojzy Zielinski, director of the Central Committee's Department of Domestic Economy, was present.

To speak in the most general terms, the plan is a compromise between needs and possibilities.

Krosno Views Agricultural Development

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 6 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Artur Bata: "Development of Agriculture Uppermost"]

[Excerpts] Krosno. Yesterday's plenum of the Krosno PZPR Voivodship Committee preceded the branch meetings of the party-economic activists' group and the sessions of the lowest echelons and plant committees, at which the party organizations' tasks in carrying out the socioeconomic plan for 1987 were discussed.

The problems of agricultural development received particularly strong emphasis at the plenum. Although industry has rather limited possibilities for development, agriculture has a chance of coming near the national average.

Given the Bieszczady conditions, this would deserve being recognized as success.

It was stated in the discussion that the complicated forest management plans were being carried out well, and it must be remembered that the forests occupy nearly half of the voivodship's area.

More Local Contacts Initiated in Pila

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 6 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Aleksander Bystrzycki: "New Ways of Thinking Needed"]

[Excerpts] Pila. People engaging in discussion at the plenum of the PZPR Voivodship Committee attempted to describe the means and methods of carrying out the voivodship's annual plan. The statements focused around two problems: the party's role in developing the society's economic awareness and the concrete steps to increase production effectiveness and improve quality.

Both the report of the voivodship committee's executive board and the discussion pointed out problems remaining to be solved: housing construction, schools, and public health.

The people engaging in the discussion also noted that the implementation of the second stage of the reform requires new ways of thinking in addition to economic efforts.

The way the present voivodship committee plenum was prepared deserves special emphasis. This past January, members of the voivodship committee gathered views of local party organizations, especially those in industry. This step made it possible to set the plenum agenda in a realistic, thoughtful way.

New Secretary in Chelm Named

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 11 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Ryszard Wolak: "The Party Looks at the Economy: Stefan Lyczak Named First Secretary of Chelm Voivodship Committee" and biography of Lyczak]

[Excerpts] Chelm. At the plenum held on 10 February, the members of the PZPR Voivodship Committee in Chelm considered how to transform the resolutions of the Third Central Committee Plenum into concrete actions.

Alojzy Zielinski, First Secretary of the PZPR Voivodship Committee, conducted the deliberations, which were attended by Jozef Baryla, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee.

During the organizational part of the meeting, the First Secretary of the PZPR Voivodship Committee was changed. Alojzy Zielinski was relieved of his duties as First Secretary of the Chelm Voivodship Committee, in connection with his assumption of duties as director of the Department of Interparty Economy, and Jozef Baryla thanked him for his many years of fruitful work in that position.

Baryla also discussed the major ongoing tasks and work for the immediate future facing the party and its members, mentioning his observations from his visit to workers in the Chelm Footwear Plants. He also recommended Stefan Lyczak, previous voivodship committee secretary, for the position of First Secretary of the Chelm Voivodship Committee. Lyczak was elected by secret ballot.

Stefan Lyczak was born to a working-class family in the village of Tarnawa in what is now Zamosc Voivodship. He is 51 years old. He entered the party in 1959. From 1955 to 1957 he was in basic military service. In 1967 he graduated from the Pedagogy Department of Marie Curie-Sklodowska University in Lublin. From 1951 to 1954 he was a member of the Powiat Administration of ZMP in Zamosc, and from 1957 to 1961 he was a member of the presidium of the ZMW Powiat Administration in Krasnystaw. He began to work in his profession in 1954 in what is now Zamosc Voivodship. He was a teacher in the village of Sobieska Wola, principal of the elementary school in Lopiennik Dolny, and then school inspector and later presidium secretary of the Powiat People's Council in Krasnystaw. Since 1960 he has held positions in party echelons at various levels. From 1971 to 1975 he was secretary of the PZPR Powiat Committee in Krasnystaw. Since 1975 he has served in successively responsible positions, including director of the voivodship committee's organizational department and director of the Regional Party Work Center, and since 1984, he has served as secretary of the PZPR Voivodship Committee in Chelm. During successive personnel reviews, he has been included among a special reserve. He has been awarded the Cross of Chivalry of the Order of Polish Rebirth. He is married and has three children. (PAP)

Cultural Issues Discussed in Tarnow

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 11 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Jolanta Zajac: "Political Support for Culture"]

[Excerpts] Tarnow. Plenum deliberations preceded the meeting between the group of members of the voivodship committee plenum and groups of experts, and the cultural activists of various communities in their institutions. The conclusions reported were the basis for the attempt made at the session to translate into concrete terms this community's tasks in the realm of structuring socialist awareness and bolstering national understanding, in keeping with the idea of the Tenth Party Congress.

In his introductory address, voivodship committee secretary Jan Karkowski stated that we can say quite confidently that our voivodship's cultural contribution is considerable.

In a resolution it adopted, the PZPR Voivodship Committee charged the party echelons and organizations with meeting workers' cultural needs to a greater extent, with reducing imbalances between urban and rural areas in terms of access to culture, with proper utilization of cadres, and with better coordination of program and organizational work.

The session was chaired by Wladyslaw Plewniak, First Secretary of the Voivodship Committee. In attendance was Andrzej Wasilewski, a secretary of Central Committee, who visited the house of culture at the nitrogen plants in the company of party officials in the afternoon.

Konin Notes Economizing Methods

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 16 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Henryk Heller: "Critical Evaluations Always Necessary"]

[Excerpts] Konin. At the beginning of February, party groups of the economic commission of the PZPR Voivodship Committee in Konin made an analysis of the thrift programs, programs for the improvement of quality, and technical progress in 45 enterprises of various sorts in the voivodship, according to Zenon Franczak, of the Konin Aluminum Mill. He was the first to take the floor in the discussion at the PZPR Voivodship Committee plenum on 14 February. The groups also assessed the extent to which the basic party organizations in the plants are interested and involved in the issue of thrift.

Therefore there is a need for more political support and the awakening of people's imagination in this area.

How can this be done? There were many realistic notions considered by the basic party organizations and proposed during the deliberations, which were chaired by Lech Ciupa, First Secretary of the voivodship committee.

The materials presented by the executive board state, for example, that 12 enterprises failed to accomplish the increase in labor productivity set down for the various branches of industry in the annual central plan (CPR), and there was even a decline in seven economic units. From several statements by people participating in the discussion, I noted an attempt to explain and clarify this state of affairs. The facts are not altered. The region's economic situation must be rectified and the existing blocks to increased production effectively eliminated.

Deputy Premier Wladyslaw Gwiazda attended the deliberations.

Olsztyn, PRON Consult Before Plenum

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 16 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Feliks Walichnowski: "Follow the Example of the Best"]

[Excerpts] Olsztyn. Party activists were very interested in the PZPR Voivodship Committee plenum held on 14 February, in Olsztyn to discuss the voivodship party organization's tasks in achieving socioeconomic goals in 1987. The preparatory materials were the subject of earlier consultations with PRON groups, trade union activists, and the rural self-government.

Tasks for this year were formulated in connection with the Tenth Party Congress and the Third Central Committee Plenum and on the basis of the resolution of the voivodship reporting and elections conference.

Much attention was devoted to improving the new pay system and to the system of working in teams.

In the resolution it adopted, the voivodship committee plenum gives priority to the development of agriculture, small manufacturing, and the processing of agricultural raw materials. On the other hand, industry should give greater attention to modern solutions (electronics) and thrift.

The deliberations were chaired by Tadeusz Jelski, First Secretary of the voivodship committee.

PZPR, ZSL Cooperative Session

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 16 Feb 87 p 2

[Article by Marian Zacharczuk: "The Land Must Bear Fruit"]

[Excerpts] Zamosc. The tasks of the PZPR and ZSL in effective administration of the production potential of Zamosc agriculture were the subject of the joint plenum of the voivodship echelon of PZPR and the voivodship committee of ZSL in Zamosc, which was held on 14 February.

The plenary session was chaired by Marian Wysocki, First Secretary of the voivodship committee, and was attended by Zbigniew Michalek, alternate of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, and Kazimierz Olesiak, secretary of the ZSL Supreme Committee.

It has become a tradition in Zamosc Voivodship for the PZPR and ZSL to hold a joint meeting to review important rural and agricultural problems.

The increase in the amount of land consisting of barren land or land poorly used and the continual decline in land consolidation and land exchanges are a very disturbing phenomenon being noted in Zamosc agriculture. Zamosc agriculture has urgent needs in the realm of reclamation. Nearly 80,000 hectares need to have work done on them.

The joint plenum was brought to a conclusion with an address by Central Committee Secretary Zbigniew Michalek, who said that there is nothing worse than to throw up your hands in despair. Zamosc Voivodship has enormous untapped reserves, but they must be utilized wisely and in steward-like fashion, both in agriculture and wherever work is done on behalf of agriculture.

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PZPR EDUCATION COMMISSION STUDIES INSTITUTIONAL NEEDS

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 23 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Bogdana Gajdeczkowa : "The Nation's Development Dictates the Directions for the Development of Schools and Educational Institutions"]

[Text] On 22 January 1987 members of the Commission for Education and Learning KC [Central Committee] PZPR met in Warsaw to discuss the conditions for increasing the effective functioning of schools and educational institutions, and improving the educational process.

Several detailed subjects had been planned. Among these, policy assumptions in reviewing organizational structures in science, higher education and learning, the assessment of learning programs at educational institutions, and the state of work progress in improving the educational system. A broad panorama of views emerged which can only help in lighting up the problems, stated Tadeusz Porebski, KC secretary and member of the Political Bureau.

Those involved in the discussions brought up the point that there is an urgent need of adapting the educational programs to the chief directions in which the nation will be developing over the coming 20 year period. This is a difficult task, because the directions for this development have not been clearly stated. It is not possible to reform the directions for education in a presently optimal network of high and middle schools. This requires a thorough analysis of the activities in every educational unit, their influence on the development on each area of the economy, for the needs that originally made them come into being. Attention was focused on the existing unfavorable phenomena of stagnant academic cadres (Prof Zdzislaw Cackowski), especially among professor's assistants.

The members of the commission were in agreement as to the need of obtaining the full picture of the educational potential which is at our nation's disposal (said Prof Roman Ney), so as not to scatter our efforts and utilize all talents and abilities.

Much time was devoted to a discussion of the educational tasks of the schools, more specifically, the methods used.

Marek Bartosik, representing the Lodz academic community called attention to the fact that many students are passive. Therefore, all grass roots initiatives leading to beneficial management of the academic life in the academic institution should be carefully tended. Jerzy Strzezek from the Olsztyn ART [Agricultural Technical Academy] spoke out as a supporter of organic work in education - without overt action, but done on a daily basis by all the workers of the educational institution.

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POLITICS

POLAND

PZPR WRITERS GROUP EXAMINES INSPIRATIONAL ROLE

WARSAW TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 29 Jan 87 p 2

[PAP article: "Problems of the Literary Life and the Writer's Situation"]

[Text] On 28 January there was a meeting of the national Collective of Party Writers at the Cultural Division of the KC [Central Committee] PZPR. In his speech, the KC PZPR secretary, Andrzej Wasilewski, presented the aims of the collective in its role as the inspiration for the intellectual movement in the creative communities.

The collective conducted an analysis among its reconstituted membership on the current problems of the literary life in Poland and the writer's situation. Under discussion were the main directions of the collective's program work. This resulted in a proposal for a cycle of conferences which would take advantage of the work from deliberations in 1985 that bore as fruit the book "The Literature of Peoples' Poland - Assessment and Prognosis". Opinions were also expressed on the topics of socio-cultural publications, radio and television, and publishers.

Those who took part in the discussion were: Zbigniew Safjan, Wojciech Roszewski, Janusz Roszko, Jacek Kajtoch, Marek Wawrzekiewicz, Bohdan Bartnikowski, Aleksander Minkowski, Witold Nawrocki, Michal Misiorny, Leszek Zulinski, Stanislaw Stanuch, Wacław Sadkowski, Kazimierz Kozniewski, Marian Stepień, Wiesław Rogowski.

Zbigniew Safjan became the new leader of the collective. Tadeusz Sawic, director of the KC PZPR Cultural Department participated in the meeting.

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SELF-CRITICISM AT PZPR CC INTERNAL AFFAIRS MEETING

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 29 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Anna Pawlowska : "An Unretouched Picture"]

[Text] An unretouched picture is what Wieslaw Bielas, a foreman at the FSC [Truck Factory] in Starachowice, called the assessment of the post-congress electoral-reporting campaign which was the main subject at the 28 January meeting of the KC [Central Committee] Commission for Inner Party Matters and Party Activities in Representative Organs and the Government Administration. These materials, after clarifying remarks are added by the commission, will be handed over to the Political Bureau.

It is a harsh assessment, and some of those involved in the discussion said that it was too harsh, one which brings out chiefly the weaknesses of party work. Among these is the tendency to run campaigns, the lack of continuity and effectiveness in activities. A similar critical spirit pervaded the discussion at the commission meeting presided over by Jozef Baryla, the KC secretary and member of the Political Bureau. The meeting had been led to this point by Stanislaw Gabrielski, the director of the Political-Organizational Division.

This picture was not painted in dark colors by force. It was pointed out, for example, that during the campaign new POP's [Primary Party Organization] were created, moreover, in rural areas where party influence is not, as is known, very strong (Ciechanow Province). Many of the POP's became aware of the shortcomings of their work (Skierniewice Province), which is a step forward. The rural organizations and community level groups showed many more virtues during the campaign than one could expect on the basis of established stereotypes (Zamojszc Province). The first KW secretary [Provincial Committee] for Czestochowa, Jerzy Sypek, considered the results of the campaign valuable because "now, more clearly than before, can we see where we are in building the party."

All those involved in the discussion indicated the direct tie between the results of the campaign and the 4th KC Plenum which is in the preparatory stage and is devoted to the problems of the POP. It appears that there is no question as to the fact that without an honest campaign and an honest analysis to draw out all possible conclusions, the plenum could not perform its function.

Here are the conclusions: the party must obtain the ability to utilize the results of individual talks; party work requires a redoubling of participation by the activists in the teaching community and in the health service; the all POP's must perform their statutory duties (regular meetings, collection of party dues, etc.); the necessity for a rapid indoctrination of all First Secretaries who were elected for the first time. In the course of discussion, in which 12 comrades participated, it was difficult not to notice two more comments. Henryk Kazmierczyk, a foreman at the Bydgoszcz "Eltra" Enterprise, called attention to the fact that one of the weaknesses in party work was "the lack of militant individuals in the POP's", which should be interpreted as having such individuals drawn off into involvement in the ranks of the activists at higher party echelons with detrimental effects to the basic party activities and those activities which interact with the fundamental working community. Meanwhile, Stanislaw Kalkus, foreman at the HC [Cegielski Works] in Poznan, without denying the necessity for the party to work on the economic problems, concluded that "the party cannot speak in the language of production, after all it has its own language, and must speak in the language of the party," and using that language it must speak also about matters concerning production.

On the second point in the discussion Edward Szymanski, director of the KC Bureau for Sejm Matters, recommended for the commission's evaluation the proposition for a projected law "About Obtaining the Citizens' Opinions", or about consultations and referendums. A lively discussion demonstrated the political and psychological dilemmas connected to the process of democratizing the workings of government in the nation, and in this way it was most instructive. Previously this document was analyzed by the PZPR Representatives' Club. Under way is the collection and formulation of a party opinion on the subject of this legislative proposal, whose necessity was foreseen by the 9th Congress and then confirmed by the 10th Congress.

During the course of the commission meeting the speakers, in addition to those mentioned, were: Kazimierz Paryszek, KW first secretary in Ciechanow; Janusz Kubasiewicz, substitute member of the Political Bureau and first secretary of the Warsaw Committee; Leszek Miller, KW first secretary in Skierniewice; Tadeusz Kojder, substitute leader of the GZP WP [Main Political Directorate, Polish Army]; Czeslaw Borowski, foreman at the electrical generating plant "Adamow"; Marian Wysocki, KW first secretary in Zamosc; Boguslaw Kolodziejczak, director of the chancellory KC Secretariat; Eugeniusz Rysz, KZ [Plant Committee] at the Sanok "Autosan"; Adolf Dobieszewski, ANS vice rector, and Jozef Gwozdz - machinist at the "Baildon" Steelworks in Katowice.

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PARTY AKTIV MEETING IN KATOWICE ON IDEOLOGY

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 29 Jan 87 p 2

[PAP article: "Party Ideological Work after the 10th Congress"]

[Text] Katowice. Party activists from the Katowice, Bielsk, and Opole Provinces met on 28 January. The meeting was devoted to the directions and forms of ideological party work after the 10th Congress. The chief speaker was Henryk Bednarski, KC PZPR secretary.

"The current phase of ideological party activity involves broad and highly complicated areas of our lives. This activity must be attune to current conditions and dictate new, effective forms and methods of work, which remain in constant contact with the social-economic development of our nation. The attainment of wide social support from millions of Poles, all working people, in their daily routine, plays a key role," stressed the KC secretary.

A condition for accomplishing the party program will be the creative approach to thought by the 10th Congress, to the idea of socialistic renewal, understanding, and struggle which is expressed by the PRON [Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth] social platform. We are talking about preserving the ability for continual improvement of our deeds, all that we do, from the direction of the social links which are realizing the the party program in respect to the realities of life. The socio-economic goals may be attained only in an atmosphere of understanding and national rebirth.

All activities of the second phase of the reform must have the virtues of being factual and realistic, without traces of opportunism.

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CSO: 2600/460

'BROTHERHOOD IN ARMS' COMMISSION, VOIVODSHIP GROUPS MEET

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 24-25 Jan 87 p 2

[Article by Rep : "Brotherhood in Arms and Work"]

[Text] On 23 January the Commission for Brotherhood in Arms ZG [Main Board] TPPR [Society for Polish-Soviet Friendship] met with the leaders of analogous commissions at the provincial level. The leader of the KBB [Brotherhood in Arms Commission], Lt Gen Jan Slivinski presented the main points of information supplied by the Ideological Division KC [Central Committee] on the realization during 1984-1986 of the resolutions made by the Political Bureau KC PZPR entitled "The Fundamental Resolutions and Assignments in Strengthening Polish-Soviet Friendship in the Social consciousness".

The information indicates that the successful realization of this resolution has contributed to favorable changes in the Polish consciousness. One of the characteristic manifestations is the growth in the Polish society's sympathy toward the USSR, as noted by the centers for sampling public opinion. A major influence in this was the development of Polish-Soviet economic, cultural, scientific, and social relations, as well as the activity of the TPPR and other groups and social organizations.

A major role was also played by the TPPR activists working in the brotherhood in arms commissions. As it appears from a report given by Col Julian Tobiasz in 1986 the commissions initiated and organized hundreds of observances to honor the memory of Red Army heroes who participated in the liberation of Poland. There are regular meetings between Poles, one time soldiers in the Soviet Army, and the youth.

Waldemar Kozlowski acquainted everyone at the meeting with the actual state of preparations for the main TPPR activity, organized to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution during 1987. This is a contest, encompassing the entire country, for an exposition of documents and historical mementos entitled "Friendship - Brotherhood in Arms - Brotherhood in Work".

The ZG TPPR secretary, Boleslaw Borysiuk, gave a report on the assignments resulting from the recently signed "Plan for the Cooperation of the ZG TPPR with the Leadership of The Northern Soviet Army Group for 1987".

Col Feliks Rogala spoke about historical trips to the USSR and visits by Soviet combatants in our country.

BOOK CLUB PURSUES AGITPROP WORK, BOOSTS SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

Warsaw ZA WOLNOSC I LUD in Polish No 8, 21 Feb 87 p 3

[Interview with Ryszard Nagorski, director of the Nowy Swiat International Press and Book Club, by Krzysztof Kazimierzak; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] You are director of the Nowy Swiat International Press and Book Club in Warsaw, an institution whose activities have received recognition for its functions. What does the club do, what are its activities?

[Answer] Among the club's many functions are a broadly conceived ideological and educational program, especially the dissemination of political, historical, and social knowledge among the broadest layers of society. We pursue this goal through a variety of activities: we organize symposia and popular science meetings, encounters with outstanding individuals in our social, economic, and cultural life, and lectures by journalists who specialize in domestic and foreign affairs. We organize about 180 such functions annually. Their subjects vary, but current domestic issues, the accomplishments and achievements of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, their cooperation with Poland, and important world events predominate. Disarmament and peace, including East-West relations, constitute a separate area of club discussions. Interest in the meetings varies and depends on the subject of the lecture. But about 6,000 people participate in our meetings annually.

So far I have mentioned one of the types of functions of our International Press and Book Club, ideological and educational work. It is worth noting the remaining basic parts of our daily operations. I am thinking of promoting readership of the press and books, foreign language teaching, and retail sales. Briefly about these operations. The club has a library of 450 titles, both the domestic and foreign press, dictionaries and encyclopedias are available to our readers. Our foreign language courses draw about 1,500 people each time. I should emphasize the high level of our club's language instruction. Our retail sales offer our clients a broad selection of Polish and foreign books, the daily press, periodicals, postcards, slides, reproductions of paintings, records, and tapes.

Let us return to the ideological and education activities which I believe are the club's principal function. I would like to discuss one of the forms of ideological education we use frequently. I am thinking of exhibits.

[Question] This type of operation has meet with great recognition, and the exhibitions organized by your club are very popular.

[Answer] Exhibits occupy an important place in our program. We prepare nearly 60 varied exhibits annually. We present the accomplishments of the socialist countries. A series of exhibitions on the Soviet Union, ("The Soviet Metro," "Finished Products from the USSR," or the exhibition and sale of Soviet toys) have drawn great interest. We present the developing countries (recently Ethiopia and Mexico). We also present the most important domestic and world events. Last year we presented the Warsaw public two large exhibits titled "The Country Before the 10th PZPR Congress" and "The Soviet Union--the 27th CPSU Congress." The exhibits organized with our Japanese partners protesting against war had particular significance. They were titled: "Hiroshima, Nagasaki," "The Children of Nagasaki," and "People, War, Life." The first of them was viewed by 26,000 people in 14 days. Peace, efforts to maintain it by the peoples of the world are strongly accented in our exhibitions.

[Question] You also devote much attention to the history of World War II and the efforts of the Polish soldiers.

[Answer] We treat that as our part in the people's historical education. In recent years we have presented a series of exhibitions on the Polish people's struggle during World War II, the beginnings of the people's state, and the labors of reconstruction. These include "Gdansk--1939," "They Took Monte Cassino," "Our Victory," "Chelm--1944," "Warsaw Indicts--Remembers, Warns," or "Gdansk--1945-1985."

[Question] How do you gather the materials for your exhibits?

[Answer] Usually we obtain them from institutions and organizations with which we cooperate regularly. Photographic materials are supplied by specialized agencies like the Military Photographic Agency, the Central Photographic Agency, or the Soviet press agency Novosti. Sometimes for monograph exhibits of authors, we obtain them from leading Polish and foreign photo journalists and private collections. The institutions and organizations with which we have cooperated for years provide us with much help in organizing exhibitions and lectures. Among them are the National Council of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Society for the Promotion of Secular Culture, the Workers' Association for the Creators of Culture, The Vistula-Odra Society, the Union of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy, the Society for Soviet-Polish Friendship, the Society for Cuban-Polish Friendship, the House of Soviet Technology and Culture, and the cultural and information centers of the socialist countries, and many, many others.

[Question] What are your more important plans for the current year?

[Answer] In February we will begin two large lecture series. The first is being organized with the Vistula-Odra Society and is titled "The History of the Drang nach Osten." It will show the whole of Polish-German relations over the centuries in 16 sessions. The second is being organized with the Literary Research Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences for the high school graduating class. Its nine sessions will discuss the history of Polish literature from the Middle Ages to today.

We will also register all of the important anniversaries that occur this year, including the 45th anniversary of the founding of the People's Guard and the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. We have already begun preparing for the latter and I warmly invite you to the photographic exhibition presenting the creative work of the ten best Soviet photo journalists in November, which we will organize with the press agency Novosti.

[Interviewer] Thank you for your comments.

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CSO: 2600/437

CHELM INAUGURATES FIRST 'SCHOOL YOUTH' COUNCIL

Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA Polish 16 Jan 87 p 7

[Article: "An Opportunity for the Active Ones : Pupils' Council in Chelm"]

[Text] (From our own sources) An unusual occurrence took place in Chelm on 15 January. The Urban Council of School Youth (MRMS), Poland's first "pupils' parliament," began its activity in the PKWN. Wladyslaw Honkisz, a member of the Council of State, and representatives of Chelm officials attended the formal MRMS meeting.

A presidium of nine persons was elected for the council. Ewa Wojciechowska, a student at the Medical High School, headed the group.

One of the main purposes of the activity of this MRMS group of 100 persons during their 2-year term will be to develop democratic principles of living together in student society and to prepare school youth to take an active part in leadership bodies and self-government forums, as well as developing group skills.

The school self-governments of all 24 elementary schools and schools at higher levels expressed the desire to take part in the student council. It is worth mentioning that in keeping with the election protocol, the youngest electors are recruited from among the pupils in grade VII, but regardless of age, all MRMS candidates must be good students.

Chelm parliament members in school uniforms have their statute and a budget of 10 million zlotys. The size of future resources will depend on the way it is used, because it is a question of giving young people an opportunity to become active and to implement in concrete form their valuable ideas, initiatives, and undertakings, as called for in the resolutions of the Tenth Party Congress. At the same time, MRMS activity is expected to produce positive effects in terms of moral training, effects that will pay off in the future lives of today's teenagers.

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CSO: 2600/474

HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL PLENUM ON PROPOSED CHANGES

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 27 Feb 87 p 3

[Article: "In the Direction of Modernity: Model of Higher Education"]

[Text] During the past few years we have noted a declining interest in study at the college level. The educational aspirations of young people and adults are dropping. This is a disturbing phenomenon.

Both the future standard of living in our country and our international position depend on the level of training and qualifications and on the habit of constantly continuing our education and developing our knowledge.

In this broad economic, social, and cultural context, the members of the Main Council on Science and Higher Education took up the subject of drafting changes in the principles for college curriculum planning and programing at their plenum, which was held on 26 February in Warsaw.

Should a uniform master's curriculum be maintained, or should various degrees of study and short training cycles be introduced? In the latter case, how could one continue to be able to penetrate college study? Consideration was also given to the real possibilities of introducing possible changes and to the ways to coordinate them with the directions of socioeconomic development. These were the themes and currents of discussion.

It was not possible to resolve the issues during the plenum. It was therefore decided that work on the concept of curriculum organization and planning would be continued by a special group composed of council members. This will be the council's contribution in drafting the "concept of a model system of national education corresponding to the demands of the 21st Century," as the resolution of the Tenth Party Congress asked.

The plenum was attended by Prof Tadeusz Porebski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, along with Prof Benon Miskiewicz, minister of science and higher education.

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NEW PZPR CC COMMISSION ON FAMILY AFFAIRS MEETS

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 24 Feb 87 p 2

[Article: "In the Realm of Social Problems : Meeting of Family Affairs Commission of PZPR Central Committee"]

[Text] On 23 January, the Commission on Family Affairs of the PZPR Central Committee convened its first meeting. At the beginning the commission's board was appointed, and the working plan for this year was discussed. The board was made up of Zofia Stepien (chair), Jadwiga Biedrzycka, Maria Gawrych, Halina Smialkowska-Ryker, and Jan Cwital.

The situation of families with many children and those headed by single parents was reviewed, because research shows that their social and material situation is usually worse, while the social and upbringing problems in them are more difficult than in other families. In the introduction leading up to the discussion, Kazimierz Rusinek, deputy chairman of the Main Statistical Office, said that 19 percent of the nearly 11 million households are families with many children (at least three children), while 7.5 percent are single-parent families, in which the head of the family is a mother raising her children alone or, one seventh as often, a father alone.

Families with many children are different from single parent families, and their needs are different. Social policy must reflect these differences. At any rate, different remedies should be applied. Many of the people engaging in the discussion adverted to this problem. On the one hand, efforts should be made to bolster the compulsory system of social benefits and alimony for families. On the other hand, protection on the part of places of employment, social organizations, and the local administration should be revitalized, because everyone knows statistically how many families are living below the minimum or on the border of poverty, but nobody has an exact idea of who needs what sort of help.

Support for families with many children and especially for single)parent families in helping with their child-raising duties is no less important, and may be even more important than help in overcoming difficulties of a material nature.

Eleven people took part in a wide, rich discussion, which will be reflected in the conclusions which the group elected by the commission is preparing. These conclusions will serve as the basis for the suggestions the commission will present for a modified model of social policy.

Members of the Commission

Chairman: Zofia Stepień, member of the Politburo and warper at the Stradom Linen Plants in Częstochowa.

From the Central Committee:

Jadwiga Biedrzycka, deputy marshal of the Sejm, chair of the main board of the Polish Women's League (LKP),

Ryszard Bierut, farmer, Sosnowa village, Wałbrzych Voivodship,

Anna Blazejewska, sales person at the Spółem PSS in Tomaszów Mazowiecki,

Urszula Chuchro, forewoman at the Zawiercie Glassworks,

Stanisława Dominiak, warper at Runotex FWR in Kalisz,

Grażyna Duda, presser at ZWUT in Warsaw,

Teresa Dzikowska, farmer, Lutowko village, Bydgoszcz Voivodship,

Maria Gabrych, drawer at the J. Marchlewski ZPB in Łódź,

Danuta Kolakowska, packager at the Chelmek ZPS, Bedzін branch,

Elżbieta Kwiecień, forewoman at Rekord ZPDz in Jędrzejów,

Zofia Miecznikowska, seamstress at Moda ZPO in Wrocław,

Tadeusz Pisarski, director of the Poznań Institute of Gynecology and Obstetrics,

Halina Śmiałkowska-Ryker, director of the Wanda ZPDz in Sosnowiec.

From Outside the Central Committee:

Jan Cwintal, deputy director of the Sociovocational Department of the Central Committee,

Danuta Graniewska, docent at the Institute of Labor and Social Affairs,

Zofia Grzebiś-Nowicka, deputy chair of KZRK10R,

Maria Jankowska-Piasecka, chair of the CR, Organization of Military Families,

Anna Kedzierska, government plenipotentiary on women's affairs,

Anna Konopinska, secretary of the main board, LKP,
Edmund Kozlowski, director, ZMW University in Opalenie, Gdansk Voivodship,
Tadeusz Kurzynowski, docent at SGPiS,
Ewa Luszczyk, editor in chief of PRZYJACIOLKA,
Bozena Nowak, deputy chair of the Households Institute,
Jozefa Palmowska, chair of the National Committee on Cooperatives, deputy,
Edward Pierwola, college teacher at ANS,
Zofia Wazna, chair of the voivodship board of ZSMP in Przemysl.

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CARDINAL KUHARIC CRITICIZED FOR STATEMENTS ON STEPINAC

Zagreb DANAS in Serbo-Croatian 17 Feb 87 pp 25-26

[Article by Nenad Ivankovic: "Cardinal's Challenge"]

[Text] Through his reinterpretation of Alojzije Stepinac at a commemoration in the Zagreb cathedral, Cardinal Kuharic is issuing a challenge to this society.

In these times, when so many things in Yugoslavia are changing, and even more are being called into question, when under the burden of the crisis not even fundamental values and institutions are being spared challenges and different interpretations, and when consequently almost everything has gotten into the game (and when possibilities for different outcomes are glimpsed), events and circumstances in society and the church could not have been ignored; not because the fate of Yugoslavia would depend upon them, but because sociopolitical conditions are such that few things can still remain marginal or unimportant. Finally, the church/religious factor in these regions has never been solely a civilizing or cultural/religious force, but always to some extent a political and ideological one as well, and that is still true today in a certain sense, although not to the same extent everywhere and not under the same name.

Consequently, "settling conditions and relations with the church" is always to some extent a matter that has certain political connotations.

This year's commemoration of the death of Alojzije Stepinac by the Zagreb cardinal--it has been regularly observed for several years now on 10 February--is naturally one of the events that, to some extent more clearly than others, indicates the intentions and mood of a part of the church leadership in Croatia. Someone who has systematically monitored these "requiems" can observe that there has been a certain "developing" (political) line in them, which has more or less corresponded to the current state of relations with the sociopolitical community, and to what could be called the ideological-political resentment of the Zagreb church leadership.

Perhaps this year's requiem sermon by the Zagreb archbishop was awaited with somewhat more attention than usual, since certain events and steps made it felt, although not quite clearly and definitely, that we were approaching a

"new quality" on the society/church scene, at least with respect to part of the hierarchy and the predominant social trends. There were several reasons and stimuli for this: from the significant speeches by Split Archbishop Franic, which were perceived in a way as a sign of a "new awareness" and a "new responsibility" for the here and now, to certain Vatican currents which confirmed on the part of the bishop of Rome (perhaps more explicitly than expected) the importance of such a Yugoslavia (for the world and Europe), lavishing praise (of its foreign policy); this was in a way also manifested in some recent bishop appointments in Yugoslavia. It is into such a context that the Zagreb bishop tried, more or less successfully and adroitly, at least with respect to his verbal utterances, to present some remarks of his own; in doing so, he usually did not go beyond his (overall) political place, but certain new tones were nevertheless evident, especially in comparison with his speech at the New Year's reception at the Assembly. Now that has been called into question, at least with this latest speech.

Change in Position

Really, if one carefully studies Kuharic's latest sermons and addresses, one will observe a certain change in his "position"—he is no longer (at least not overtly and explicitly) speaking as an irreconcilable critic of the system and the leading ideology, but is rather emphasizing in particular certain other issues and seeking enemies, one might say, within the system. That is illustrated to some extent by this latest speech about Stepinac. On all previous similar occasions, Cardinal Kuharic (more or less explicitly) engaged in polemics with the system (the atheist ideology), while using Stepinac as a counterweight, as an alternative, not to this or that value, but rather as a comprehensive alternative. That is why he was so insistent on the "evidence" of his innocence, on the drama of Good Friday, after which the resurrection comes, of course.

On this occasion, if we have understood his speech correctly, he has acted somewhat differently. Admittedly, he gives his messages an appearance of dialogue and peacefulness, emphasizing that "As believers, we are obligated to want good and do good to every person, our own people and every people... We, the Church of the Croatian people, want peace for each and everyone, knowing that peace is built through truth and love..." It is more important, however, that he is now turning the edge of his criticism against the press, and against the part of it that "with its black-and-white technique in assessing people and events does not serve either truth or justice... (because) they are repeating the old accusations about Cardinal Stepinac and his time, which are obviously not aimed at establishing the historical truth, but rather at keeping him and the Church of the Croatian people on the prisoner's bench."

Even though Kuharic is speaking about Stepinac and the Church as if "pro domo sua," and thus directly in accordance with the black-and-white technique, and even though for years he has not shifted one iota toward the real historical truth in this regard, that shift is becoming apparent, although it is not moderating the final messages of his sermons.

Stepinac—Picture of the Church

It is therefore understandable that Kuharic had to present Stepinac in what was to some extent a new way. If, in fact, the system and its leading ideology are no longer the primary enemies (or it is not necessary to dwell on something like that), then very little really remains of the former Stepinac. If he is not the shibboleth of anticommunism and opposition to the regime, then what is he that the church should still be some kind of sociopolitical demiurge (although not primarily)?

At this point Kuharic embarked upon a lengthy argument that, we are convinced, would not withstand even favorable theological criticism, much less historical and political criticism. In fact, he tried to speak of Stepinac from the standpoint of "evangelical anthropology"—consequently, almost two thirds of his speech is devoted to the dignity of man and his rights, but he went so far in that direction that he raised Stepinac to prophetic heights. "With Christian foresight," Kuharic says, "he saw that the foundations for human understanding to avoid a catastrophe and build a better world were those truths and those principles which the modern Church, inspired by the Council and under the enlightened leadership of Pope John Paul II, is today making the basis of its message to the world, and its faithfulness to God and man!"

If these words had not been uttered by an archbishop and a cardinal, they would really be comical—not because they are about Stepinac, but because such exaggerations are frivolous, and we fear even tasteless, not to mention the political connotations.

In fact, to say that a bishop, which Stepinac was, anticipated the policy of the Pope in regard to human rights and human dignity, especially a Pope who comes from the Polish church, whose bishops and priests paid a well-known price in blood to Nazism and did not make (even courtesy) visits to the occupiers, really goes even further than the deluded assertion (made by GIAS KONCILA) that the Catholic Church in Croatia began the conciliar renewal long before the Second Vatican Council!

In spite of this, a certain "drift" can be observed in his position. Stepinac is no longer primarily a symbol of anticommunism; for Kuharic, he is above and beyond ideologies and social systems (which is also nonsense), and that is why he cites his words in 1943 in order to show him to be the immortal Christian inspiration whose "evangelical anthropology" was embodied in the Holy See's current policy. Consequently, Kuharic also says the following: "When we see in our own day that the Church, headed by the Pope, is insisting in the most important church documents on this same dignity (man's) as a solid bridge over an abyss of diverse divisions, is this not a clear sign that our Archbishop Alojzije was farsightedly contemporary?" And then consequently this point: "We claim even today that without those principles it is not possible to build a world of peace, human brotherhood, and peaceful life for all people, especially in this country of ours."

If we now ask what and whose principles he is really talking about, then it is clear that it is not a question of Stepinac's principles, either the real ones or those attributed to him for years by apologists, but rather of an attempt

to imbue this politically dried-up and worn-out symbol with a new content and significance, even though he has been embellished with someone else's plumage.

Also important is this: if someone really cares about dialogue, peace, and coexistence, as Kuharic has been trying to persuade us for years in his New Year's speech at the Assembly (and now perhaps to dissuade us), then it seems more reasonable that he should come up with at least enough good will and strength to examine his own position self-critically as well.

Pope Wojtyla found the strength in Asia, before the entire world and before representatives of all the world's religions, to express some self-critical words at the expense of Catholics and their "historical guilt." Kuharic, unfortunately, does not follow the Pope in this, and that is the difficulty of his new position in the "dialogue." Furthermore, in regard to the social climate toward the church and religion in this society, which has recently been undoubtedly characterized by openness, dialogue, and respect, he, with his (re)interpretation of Stepinac as the spiritual picture of a church for all times and systems, has laid what foundations there are for a freeze in relations and for new tensions.

Furthermore, the most unacceptable thing is perhaps that he is acting as if the entire Catholic hierarchy were speaking through his mouth, even though it is more likely that his views are shared by a minority. He likewise cites the alleged mass religious consensus, although the fact (from sociological research) has been publicly reiterated several times that only 10 percent of the believers accept speaking about Stepinac as being placed at the very heart of the church, and thus as a sociopolitical watershed over which, in view of all our historical and other circumstances, and the well-known positions, it is only possibly to engage in socially fruitless polemics and in the relations that certain people in the hierarchy, as well as representatives of the sociopolitical community, have been trying to surmount in recent years. Consequently, one can say without exaggeration that with such a reinterpretation of Stepinac, Kuharic is issuing a challenge to this society.

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PRESENCE OF AIDS ACKNOWLEDGED

Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 4 Mar 87 p 7

[Article: "Four Ill With Aids in the CSR"]

[Text] The syndrome of acquired immune deficiency, abbreviated as AIDS, is sporadically spread in the Czech Socialist Republic. This is the conclusion voiced by assistant professor Lubomir Syrucek, candidate of sciences, chief of the Specialized Reference Laboratory of the Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology for AIDS, at yesterday's press conference. For the present, more than 13,000 persons from at-risk groups of the population have been examined here. Among them, there were four cases, including one foreign student who has since departed, there were also 36 carriers of this disease, once more including 12 foreigners who have already left the CSR or are preparing to do so. In Slovakia, as was stated by Dr Gustav Walter from the Ministry of Public Health of the CSR, there are two cases and seven people who have the AIDS virus in their blood.

So, despite the fact that for now this serious disease is not overly widespread in our country, this cannot make us feel complacent. In developed Western countries, the number of victims of the disease is rising steeply. According to estimates of the World Health Organization for one-half of last year, there are already 100,000 cases of AIDS throughout the world with 300,000-500,000 persons being in the preliminary stages of the disease and another 5-10 million healthy persons infected with the AIDS virus, according to Prof Jan Sejda, doctor of sciences, chairman of the Czech Consultation Corps for AIDS. The largest number of cases exists in the United States where the first case of acquired immune deficiency was found in 1981. Whereas, in 1983, the United States had a daily increase of 10 cases of AIDS, toward the end of January of this year that number had risen to 160 per day; it is estimated that, for various reasons, approximately one-tenth of these cases is not recorded. In Europe, 4,576 patients were registered by 11 February, whereas by the end of September 1985 (according to the brochure on AIDS which appeared last year) there were only a few more than 1,500 cases. In the USSR, as was published last week by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, there have been 13 cases, 12 of them involving foreigners.

AIDS is a source of concern primarily because there is no effective drug against the disease for now and one-half of all patients die within a year of

a confirmed diagnosis and 90 percent of patients die within 5 years. Scientists from the largest research institutes of the world are pressing research on viruses which cause AIDS and are seeking an effective cure--unfortunately, for the present, without great success.

How is AIDS transmitted and how can this disease be avoided?

For the most part, it is spread through sexual contact, mainly among homosexuals. Our three patients are also homosexuals who had lived abroad. The basic preventive measure, which is within the grasp of every individual, is, therefore, not to change partners. The disease is also transmitted through blood and blood derivatives, including contaminated needles and syringes, which poses a danger particularly to drug addicts. For example, 13 of our AIDS carriers acquired this virus from foreign blood derivatives; the others are homosexuals. That is why all imported therapeutic blood derivatives are strictly controlled. Currently it is planned to initiate the examination of all blood donors at transfusion stations within the framework of ongoing examinations; it is a pity that representatives of the Ministry of Public Health were unable to indicate a target date by which examining instruments will be functioning everywhere.

Our public health service is faced with the task of minimizing the incidence of AIDS and of controlling it. Each citizen can make a contribution in this regard with his or her life style.

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20 July 1987